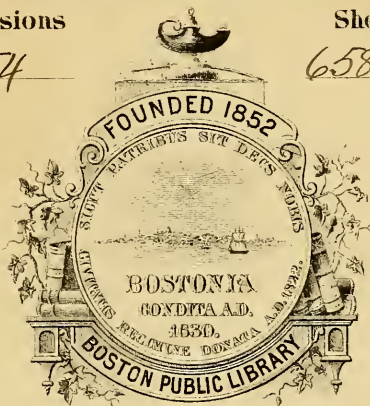


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REPLY

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MESSRS. G. & C. MERRIAM'S ATTACK

UPON THE

CHARACTER OF DR. WORCESTER

AND

HIS DICTIONARIES.



BOSTON:

JENKS, HICKLING AND SWAN.

1854.

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WORCESTER'S DICTIONARIES.

WE have recently received from a friend in Ohio a pamphlet issued by Messrs. G. & C. Merriam, of Springfield, Mass., containing a gross and vulgar attack upon the character of Joseph E. Worcester, LL.D., and his Dictionaries. To those who enjoy a personal acquaintance with Dr. Worcester, the statements contained in it will excite only compassion for the authors; but, as we are informed that the pamphlet has been extensively circulated throughout the Western States, and in sections of the country where Dr. Worcester is personally unknown, it becomes necessary, in justice both to him and ourselves, that we should examine some of the statements, and expose the falsity of them.

The attack upon the character of Dr. Worcester commences with a letter from Messrs. G. & C. Merriam, which occupies about fourteen octavo pages, purporting to be addressed to one Mr. L. P. Frost, from which we extract only the first paragraph, as follows :

Springfield, May, 1853.

MR. FROST.

DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 30th of March was duly received. We have also before us a copy of the pamphlet to which you refer, and beg leave to say a few things in regard to its statements. To begin with the end: its authors speak of their "regret that gratuitous and unfounded assaults upon Worcester's Dictionaries" render it necessary for them to employ instrumentalities for which they seem conscious an apology is necessary. We will state the facts. In 1828, Dr. Webster, after twenty or thirty years' assiduous labor, published his AMERICAN DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, in 2 vols. 4to. In the previous year, 1827, an edition of Todd's Johnson's Dictionary, 1 vol. 8vo., was published in Boston, of which Mr. Worcester was the American editor. Having the entire control of the matter, he retained the *k* in words terminating in *c*, as *musick*, *physick*, *almanack*, &c., and the *u* in *honour*, *favour*, *authour*, and that large class of words; — Dr. Webster omitted both these, as *music*, *favor*, &c., and they constitute a very large and important class of the words in regard to which he departed from the then prevalent orthography. Shortly subsequent to this, Mr. Worcester was employed by Dr. Webster or his family to prepare an Abridgment of the American Dictionary — the present 8vo., published by Messrs. Harpers, for which he was paid \$2000. It may be supposed he acquired some skill in dictionary-making by his labor. Some fifteen or eighteen years

subsequent to this, and very soon after Dr. Webster's death, — and not till then, we believe, — and after Webster's 8vo. had acquired deserved celebrity and a wide sale, Mr. Worcester announced his intention to issue a Dictionary himself, of the same size and price, which he shortly did, adopting several of Dr. Webster's peculiarities, omitting the *k* and *u*, as above alluded to; but adding that he was "not aware of having taken a single word, or the definition of a word," from Webster, in the preparation of his own work. Yet it is a fact of significance in this connection, that errors in definitions, and in other respects, into which Dr. Webster was inadvertently led in his first, but corrected in subsequent editions, are faithfully found embodied in Worcester.

Before proceeding to controvert the falsehoods contained in the foregoing paragraph, we extract, from the 17th and 18th pages of the same pamphlet, the following letter, which the Messrs. Merriam say was "recently received from a distinguished teacher in Eastern Massachusetts." They do not give the *name* of the writer, or of the *place of his residence*, but substitute blank lines, as given below :

—————, April 13, 1853.

MESSRS. G. & C. MERRIAM.

GENTLEMEN: * * * * I have no doubt of its being *the* Dictionary of the English Language, when Worcester shall be remembered only as an *unworthy* and *unjust* speculation of the past.

Webster's Spelling Book was the class book of my earlier days, and the memory of it is still pleasant, from the Frontispiece, with its Temple of Knowledge, to "*Finis*."

In later years I came into possession of Webster's smaller School Dictionary, and the feeling of exultation with which I looked over its pages is with me yet. In the language of a justly celebrated teacher of New Hampshire, there was no "*tshuing*" then, but simple common sense, founded on the use and derivation of the words, in spelling and pronunciation.

Some fourteen or fifteen years since I looked over Webster's Octavo Dictionary with MARSHALL S. RICE, Esq. (for more than twenty-five years an *eminently successful* teacher in Newton Centre, Mass.), and he selected something more than one hundred words, I should think, the spelling of which was simplified, as compared with *Walker*, and sent them to the editor of the *Boston Cultivator*, and they appeared in the columns of that paper, with a note commending Webster's Dictionary. (I think I am right in the name of the paper. I know I am in the fact.)

About that time, or soon after, I heard of Worcester's Dictionary. The story came to me thus; namely, that Worcester was at once the pupil and assistant of Webster, and, seeing that he, Webster, had taken a step in advance of the age, though not in advance of truth, and also that Walker was "behind the time," treacherously went to work, catering to the Walk-erian taste of the day, and produced this "bastard dictionary."

Since then, year after year, I have watched the *unscrupulous measures* with which the publishers of Worcester have pressed their claims to public attention and patronage, striving to defame the fair renown of Webster in their flagitious attempts to "fill their pockets" by foisting a comparatively worthless book upon the public. Editions of all sizes, all prices, and no prices, have been scattered through the community, placed in the hands of teachers, committees, &c., in order to get them introduced into schools.

* * * I am *not of age* in the school-keeping business, yet, as this is but my *eighteenth* year of teaching (*not 21st*), six of which I have passed in connection with the Public High School in this place.

* * * * The "*whining*" of Worcester's advocates is with regard to the spelling and pronunciation of a few words which use is every year rendering nearer and nearer, and will soon completely render, Websterian, for the road to reach it is nothing in comparison to that already passed. And, in *defining*, Webster is *infinitely preëminent*. When you touch on this point, they are either *mum*, or yield the point at once.

Respectfully and truly yours,

In another pamphlet before us, issued by these same gentlemen, and purporting to be a letter addressed by them to Dr. Worcester, we find the following axiom: "We take it for granted, that a person quoting, publishing, and circulating opinions and statements made by others, indorses those statements and opinions; or else, disbelieving them, gives currency to what he knows to be falsehood." We assent to the truth of this proposition, and hold Messrs. G. & C. Merriam, by their own rule, responsible for the falsehoods contained in this letter, not only as indorsers, but as principals, at least until they furnish the public with the name of the author. We do not wish even to insinuate that the letter is a malicious fabrication, designed to injure both the moral and literary character of Dr. Worcester, and to affect the sale of his dictionaries; but we venture to assert that no gentleman holding the responsible office of "teacher in Eastern Massachusetts" will be willing to avow himself publicly as the author. We are, however, content to hold the indorsers responsible; and, with a view to expose the falsehoods contained in it, as well as in the preceding extract from the Messrs. Merriam's letter, we invite the attention of the reader to the following statement of facts in relation to the publication both of Worcester's and Webster's Dictionaries.

In 1827, Johnson's English Dictionary, as improved by Todd, and abridged by Chalmers, with Walker's Pronouncing Dictionary combined, was published in Boston, and edited by Dr. Worcester. It will be noticed that the Messrs. Merriam, in order to make it appear that Dr. Worcester had been inconsistent with himself in relation to *orthography*, say,

In 1827, an edition of Todd's Johnson's Dictionary, 1 vol. 8vo., was published in Boston, of which Mr. Worcester was the American editor. *Having the entire control of the matter*, he retained the *k* in words terminating in *c*, as *musick*, *physick*, *almanack*, &c., and the *u* in *horour*, *favour*, *authour*, and that large class of words.

This statement is void of truth, as will be seen by the following extract from a pamphlet recently issued by Dr. Worcester himself. He says:

“Johnson’s English Dictionary, as improved by Todd and abridged by Chalmers, with Walker’s Pronouncing Dictionary combined,” first published in Boston in 1827, was edited by me on principles fixed upon by the publishers, and some literary gentlemen who were their counsellors in the matter; and of these counsellors, the one who did the most in the business was the late learned and much-respected Mr. John Pickering. It was made my duty to conform to the principles established for my guidance; and I had no “control of the matter.” The Dictionary was to contain *Johnson’s orthography*, and *Walker’s pronunciation*. I was so far from defending the use of final *k* in *music*, *physic*, &c., that I said in relation to it, in my Preface to that Dictionary, “The general usage, both in England and America, is at present so strongly in favor of its omission, that the retaining of it seems now to savor of affectation or singularity.”

These publishers (Messrs. Merriam) further charge me with “adopting several of Dr. Webster’s peculiarities, omitting the *k* and *u*,” &c. I am not aware of having adopted any of Dr. Webster’s “peculiarities” relating either to orthography or pronunciation; and if any such can be found in my Dictionary, I should certainly not regard them as adding to the value of the work.

With respect to the omission of *k* in *music*, *public*, &c., it may be stated, in addition to what is said above, that it was omitted in that class of words in Martin’s English Dictionary, published in 1749, before that of Johnson: and it has been omitted in many other Dictionaries published since; and the omission of *u* in *honor*, *favor*, &c., was countenanced in the Dictionaries of Ash and Entick, published long before that of Dr. Webster. The fact that this orthography was the prevailing usage with the best authors in this country was a good reason for adopting it.

There are other falsehoods relating to me, contained in the Advertising Pamphlet of these publishers, which I pass by without particular notice.

In 1828 Dr. Webster completed his American Dictionary of the English Language, in two volumes, quarto. It was published by Mr. Sherman Converse, who, fortunately, is still alive to vindicate the character of Dr. Worcester, and to refute the slanders which have been heaped upon him. The work contained so many innovations in orthography and pronunciation, that it was not favorably received by the public. Mr. Converse found it an unprofitable speculation, and sought to remunerate himself by publishing an Abridgment; but, before doing this, he insisted upon some changes in orthography, and other variations from the original. He had spent the best portion of his business life in the publication of it, and had invested a large amount of capital in the work; and when he found that it would not sell either in this country or in England, he looked forward to the publication of an Abridgment of it, to save himself from pecuniary loss; but he informs us, after all his experience in Dr. Webster’s skill as a lexicographer, that if he published an Abridgment, he “desired it to be made by an able hand,” and that he “could think of but *one man*” whose attainments and pursuits had qualified him for the task. That man was Dr. Worcester. We prefer, however, to let Mr. Converse speak for himself in the mat

ter. In a letter to Dr. Worcester, dated August 31, 1853, vindicating him from one of the attacks made upon his character by the Messrs. Merriam, he says :

The simple history of the whole matter is this. I had published Mr. Webster's great Dictionary, and presented it to the public. The labor had cost from two to three years of the best portion of my business life, without any adequate remuneration. For this I looked to an Abridgment, and such future editions of the larger work as the demand might authorize. But if I published an Abridgment I wished to stereotype it, and, as a business man, I desired it to be made by an able hand, and with some variations, of minor importance, from the original. On conferring with Mr. Webster upon the subject, he stated two objections to my views. He felt that he had not the physical power left to perform the labor in a reasonable time, and that he could not preserve his literary consistency and be responsible for the variations which I desired. Yet, as I had published the great work after it had been declined, and that not very graciously, by all the principal booksellers on both sides of the Atlantic, he was willing that I should derive any remuneration I might anticipate from an octavo abridgment. With these views and feelings, he consented to commit the subject to the mutual discretion of Professor Goodrich and myself; setting a limit, however, beyond which variations should not be made; and that he might not incur the least responsibility for such variations as the abridgment might contain, I understood him to say he should give the copyright to another.

As soon as Mr. Webster had made his decision, which was probably a sacrifice of feeling on his part to do me a favor, I applied to *you* to undertake the labor. You declined, and so decidedly that I made a visit to Cambridge for the sole purpose of urging your compliance with my request. You assured me that you could not undertake to abridge Mr. Webster's Dictionary, for the very good reason that you had then already made considerable progress in preparing a Dictionary of your own. At the same time, you showed me a Synopsis of words of disputed pronunciation, with the respective authorities. But the result of our interview was an agreement on your part to abridge the Dictionary for me, and to allow me to use your Synopsis, with the express reservation of the right to use it as your own, for your own Dictionary. And I must say that my persuasive powers were very severely taxed in securing the desired result.

I returned to New Haven, and subsequently called on you in company with Mr. Goodrich, when the matter of variations was settled, and you entered upon the labor; and I am free to say you performed it to my entire satisfaction, and I believe to that of Professor Goodrich also, for I never heard an intimation to the contrary.

I am very faithfully yours,

S. CONVERSE.

It clearly appears, from this letter, that Dr. Worcester was not "employed by Mr. Webster or his family to prepare an abridgment of the American Dictionary," as has been stated by the Messrs. Merriam; but that he undertook the task solely for Mr. Converse, and only upon his earnest and repeated solicitations. He was at the time engaged in making his "Comprehensive Pronouncing and Explanatory Dictionary of the English Language," his labors upon which he now suspended, and produced the "American Dictionary of the English Language, abridged

from the Quarto Edition, by Noah Webster," in 1829. It is a fact worthy to be remembered, that Dr. Worcester inserted upwards of three thousand words into this Dictionary which were not contained in Dr. Webster's Quarto Dictionary, and which, it may be presumed, were unknown to Dr. Webster at the time he made it.

This is all the connection that Dr. Worcester ever had with Mr. Webster, his family, or his Dictionaries; and yet Messrs. G. & C. Merriam, nearly a quarter of a century after the labor was performed, and probably when they supposed the parties to the transaction, other than Dr. Worcester, were all dead, publish to the world, with a view to injure his literary reputation and the sale of his works, "that Worcester was at once the pupil and assistant of Webster, and seeing that he, Webster, had taken a step in advance of the age, &c.,—treacherously went to work, catering to the Walkerian taste of the day, and produced this [his own] 'bastard dictionary.'"

Dr. Worcester having silently submitted to these and similar slanders, at length felt himself compelled to publish a statement of facts in relation to this matter, in which he pronounced the statement that he had been employed by Mr. Webster or his family as "*void of truth*"; to which the Messrs. Merriam publish a reply, and, with their accustomed mendacity, reiterate the charge. The following correspondence places the subject in its true light.

DR. WORCESTER'S LETTER.

December 13, 1853.

To Mr. S. CONVERSE.

DEAR SIR: I say in my pamphlet, "The statement that I was employed by Dr. Webster or his family to abridge the American Dictionary is *void of truth*." This I supposed, and still suppose, to be strictly true. Is it or is it not so? You were the only person that I had anything to do with in undertaking to perform that labor, and I supposed you acted on your own responsibility, as in an affair of your own. The Messrs. Merriam, in their recent pamphlet, say, "Our statement, we submit to you and the public, in its fair intent and spirit, is *not* void of truth, and you were employed by Dr. Webster or his family, through Mr. C., as their agent, to abridge his Dictionary."

Please to inform me, from your own knowledge of the facts, whether my statement is strictly true or not.

Yours, &c.,

J. E. WORCESTER.

MR. CONVERSE'S ANSWER, DATED

December 19, 1853.

To Mr. WORCESTER.

DEAR SIR: You request me to say whether, in negotiating with you to abridge Mr. Webster's Quarto Dictionary, I acted as *agent* either of Dr. Webster or his family. My answer is, that I acted as *agent of no man*. My arrangement with Mr. Webster and his family was permission to make and publish an octavo abridgment of the large work, with liberty to include some slight alterations from the original. The alterations were left to the

mutual discretion of Professor Goodrich and myself, carefully restricted within a limit dictated by Mr. Webster. This point settled, I determined to stereotype the work; and as the whole responsibility of the undertaking rested on *me alone*, I could think of but *one man* to whom I felt willing to confide the important trust of making an abridgment which involved a risk so great. Your attainments and pursuits had eminently qualified you for the task, and I decided at once to engage your services, if possible. Either before or directly after my correspondence with you upon the subject, I intimated my preference and purpose to Professor Goodrich, and received his cordial approval. The risk and expense both of abridging and stereotyping the Octavo Dictionary were exclusively my own. The family of Mr. Webster had no share in either, and I do not know that I ever disclosed to any member of it the terms of my contract, either with yourself or the type-founders.

Yours, &c.,

S. CONVERSE.

We conclude this part of our subject with the following extract from Dr. Worcester, in relation to his having been "at once a pupil and assistant of Webster":—"I will leave it with the reader to characterize such a course and such language as he may see fit; with the single remark that, so far from having been 'a pupil and assistant of Webster,' I never saw him to speak with him more than three or four times during his life."

In 1830 Dr. Worcester published his "Comprehensive Pronouncing and Explanatory Dictionary of the English Language." Soon after the work appeared, the most serious attacks were made upon his character, and even Dr. Webster himself had the temerity to charge him publicly with plagiarism; with what success the reader will see on reading the following statement made by Dr. Worcester, and the correspondence which follows.

As the question respecting the use made of "the materials of Dr. Webster" has become one of so much importance, I have thought, on further reflection, that it is proper the public should have the means of better understanding the reasons which induced me to take the course which I did, in preparing my "Universal and Critical Dictionary." My course, which was known to some of my literary friends, was objected to; for I was told that, by totally abstaining from such use of Dr. Webster's Dictionary, I deprived myself of advantages for improving my own, which I might, to some extent, without impropriety, avail myself of; but I was sure, from what had already taken place, that I could not make such use, to a degree that would be of any benefit to me, without subjecting myself to such reproach as would be very unpleasant. I therefore merely cited Dr. Webster's authority in relation to words differently pronounced by different orthoëpists.

The necessity, in order to avoid reproach, of my taking the course I did in relation to the *Universal Dictionary*, must be sufficiently obvious to all who know what took place with respect to my previous work, entitled the *Comprehensive Dictionary*, which was first published in 1830. In November, 1834, there appeared in the *Worcester Palladium* (a newspaper published at Worcester, Mass.), at the instigation, as I was informed, of an agent for Dr. Webster's Dictionaries, an attack upon me, in which the following language was used: "*A gross plagiarism has been committed by Mr. J. E. Worcester on the literary property of Noah Webster, Esq. . . . Mr. Worcester*"

ter, after having become acquainted with Mr. Webster's plan, immediately set about appropriating to his own benefit the valuable labors, acquisitions, and productions of Mr. Webster. . . . If we had a statute which could fix its grasp on those who pilfer the products of mind, as readily as our laws embrace the common thief, Mr. Worcester would hardly escape with a light mulct."

At this time the *Christian Register*, published in Boston, was edited by Professor Sidney Willard, who happened to be as well acquainted with my lexicographical labors, and the circumstances relating to them, as almost any gentleman in the community; and he answered this (as he styled it) "ferocious assault" in such a manner as he thought proper, before I had any knowledge that such an assault had been made. In order to sustain his accusation, the editor of the *Palladium* enumerated *twenty-one words*, which he said "are found in none of the English Dictionaries in common use, and were undoubtedly taken from Webster's." I thought proper to send to the editor an answer to his attack. In a succeeding number of the *Palladium*, there appeared a short letter to the editor from Dr. Webster, dated New Haven, December 11th, 1834, in which he said, "That he [Worcester] borrowed some words and definitions, I suppose to be proved by the fact that they are found in no British Dictionary; at least, in none that I have seen." Subsequently there appeared, in the *Palladium*, a letter from Dr. Webster, addressed to me, dated January 25th, 1835. This was followed by an answer from me, dated February 6th. Two more letters from Dr. Webster followed, together with my answers. The editor of the *Christian Register* transferred the whole correspondence into his paper.

By perusing all that appeared in these two newspapers, the *Palladium* and the *Register*, the reader would have the means of judging of the merits of the case, and would be able to understand something of the circumstances and reasons which induced me to take the course of abstaining entirely from the use of the materials found in Dr. Webster's Dictionary. But, as it might tax the patience of the reader too much to place before him all this matter (which may be seen by examining the files of those newspapers), I will now insert Dr. Webster's first letter to me, dated January 25, together with my answer. This letter contains Dr. Webster's chief specifications against me, — a list of one hundred and twenty-one words, "which," he said, "*primâ facie*, would seem to be taken from his Dictionary." In his subsequent letters, he did not specify any more words as borrowed from him; and the only word specified, with respect to which he accused me of "*adding his definitions*," was the word *clapboard*; and in that, I may say, he succeeded no better in his evidence than with respect to the charge of borrowing the one hundred and twenty-one words. The reader will please to compare the specifications and the evidence with the charges against me, quoted from the *Worcester Palladium*, and characterize the whole transaction as he may see fit.

MR. WEBSTER'S LETTER.

From the Worcester Palladium.

New Haven, January 25, 1835.

MR. J. E. WORCESTER.

SIR: Before I saw, in the *Worcester Palladium*, a charge against you of committing plagiarism on my Dictionary, I had not given much attention to your Dictionary. Nor have I now read and compared with mine one-tenth part of the work. But in running over it, in a cursory manner, I have collected the following words, which, *primâ facie*, would seem to have been taken from my Dictionary:

Abatable	Bateau	Chowder
Assignor	Cartrut	Congregationalist
Augcan	Caucus	Congressional

Clapboard	Musquash	Scrify
Dell	Notarial	Scow
Dutiable	Neap (<i>of a cart, &c.</i>)	Sheepshead
Deliquesce	Neptunian	Spry
Digraph	Outlay	Squirm
Emphasize	Obsidian	Spinning-jenny
Effloresce	Obstetrics	Spinning-wheel
Educational	Ochlocracy	Seraskier
Effervescent	Olivaceous	Siderography
Electioneer	Ophiologist	Siderographical
Farrow	Ophiology	Slump
Fructescence	Philosophism	Succotash
Fracas	Phosphoresce	Selectman
Glazing	Phosphorescence	Sparse
Governmental	Phosphorescent	Sou
Grandjury	Prayerful	Souvenir
Graphite	Prayerless	Suffix, <i>n. & v.</i>
Griddle	Promisec	Tirade
Hydrant	Pappoose	Tenderloin
Irredeemable	Pistareen	Teraphim
Instanter	Pledge	Test, <i>v.</i>
Isothermal	Postfix	Thammuz
Johannes	Postnote	Tetaug
Judiciary (<i>noun</i>)	Raca	Tomato
Kumiss	Ramadan	Tuffoon
Land-office	Razee	Uranology
Lapstone	Redemptioner	Varioloid
Landslip	Rhabdology	Vapor-bath
Leach	Rock-crystal	Vermivorous
Leachtub	Roil, roily	Vishna
Magnetize	Repealable	Voltaism
Mazology	Safety-valve	Volcanist
Mishna	Semiannual	Waffle
Moccason	Sectional	Whiffletree
Monitorial	Sabianism	Wilt
Muscovado	Saltrheum	Winter-kill
Muskrat, <i>or</i>	Savings-bank	Zumology.

I will thank you, sir, to state in what other Dictionary, except mine, you found the foregoing words, and how many or which you borrowed from mine.

Your compliance with this request will oblige

Your humble servant,
N. WEBSTER.

MR. WORCESTER'S ANSWER.

Cambridge, February 6, 1835.

DR. NOAH WEBSTER.

SIR: On Friday last I received a copy of the *Worcester Palladium*, in which was found a letter addressed by you to me, containing a list of one hundred and twenty-one words from my Dictionary, "which," you say, "*primâ facie*, would seem to have been taken from your Dictionary;" and you add that you "will thank me to state in what other Dictionary, except yours, I found the words, and how many or which I borrowed from yours."

As a lawyer, sir, you are aware, that, when an accusation is made, the burden of the proof lies not with the accused, but with the accuser. It might not, therefore, perhaps be improper for me to take the ground that your request is an unreasonable one, and for that reason to decline to com-

ply with it. I will not, however, avail myself of this right. I think I may truly say that in my transactions with you it has been my intention to act uprightly and faithfully, nor do I know that an individual of those who are most acquainted with the facts (yourself excepted) has a different impression. In answer to the charges which have appeared against me in the *Worcester Palladium*, I have already made some statements of facts, none of which, so far as I know, have been, or can be, disproved. You now call for something further, and it shall be cheerfully granted. I feel indeed gratified by the manner in which you have been pleased to make the request; for though I have no love of contention, yet, if I must be dragged into a newspaper controversy in defence of myself in this matter, I should prefer that, of all men in the world, it should be with yourself, writing under your own name.

You evidently supposed, sir, that none of the words in your list were to be found in any Dictionary that was published before the appearance of your work; but I confess I am somewhat surprised at this fact, inasmuch as, from your reputation as a lexicographer, it might naturally be supposed that you were extensively acquainted with works of this sort, and especially with the works which are so well known to all persons who have any just pretensions to much knowledge of this kind of literature as are the several publications which I shall name. I shall not go out of my own library, or mention any work that I was not in the habit of consulting in preparing my Dictionary.

Of the *one hundred and twenty-one* words in your list, *eighteen* are found in an edition of Bailey's Dictionary, published more than a century ago, and *twenty-one* in a later edition; *thirty-five*, in Ash's Dictionary, published in 1775; *thirty-seven*, in Todd's Johnson's Dictionary combined with Walker's, edited by *J. E. Worcester*, and published before the appearance of yours, *twenty-one*, in Mr. Pickering's Vocabulary, published in 1816; not less than *thirty* in the *Encyclopædia Americana*, and nearly as many in Brewster's *New Edinburgh Encyclopædia*; and in these several works upwards of *ninety* of the words are found, and many of them several times repeated. I have, in addition to the works above mentioned, about fifty English Dictionaries and Glossaries, in a majority of which I have ascertained that more or less of the words in question are to be found, but I have not leisure, at present, to go through a minute examination of them.

Of your hundred and twenty-one words, *six* or *seven* are not to be found, so far as I can discover, in your Quarto Dictionary, and one of them is one of those *three thousand words* which are contained in Todd's Johnson's Dictionary, but are *not* to be found in your great work, and which were inserted by me in the octavo abridgment of your Dictionary. Whether any of the others are among the words which were inserted in the abridgment at my suggestion, I cannot say with certainty.

From the preceding statement, you may perceive, sir, that your *primâ facie* evidence is sufficiently disposed of, as it respects the most of the words in question. You inquire "in what other *Dictionary*" the words are to be found; and in your former communication to the *Worcester Palladium* you were so candid as to say "that I borrowed some words from you, you suppose to be *proved* by the fact that they are found in no British Dictionary; at least, in none that you have seen." Now, sir, it appears to me that it would be quite as sound logic to infer, from the above statements, that you have not seen, or at least have not carefully examined, many British Dictionaries, as it would to infer, with respect to a list of words, that because you do not know of their existence in British Dictionaries, they must, therefore, have been taken from yours; for it appears sufficiently evident that there may be words in British Dictionaries that you are not aware of. You seem also to have overlooked the circumstance that there are, besides Dic-

tionaries, other sources for obtaining words, which are open to me, as well as to you; and if my success in finding words *out of* Dictionaries should bear as good a comparison with yours as it seems to bear in finding the words in question *in* them (I only put the case hypothetically), it would not appear very wonderful if I were able to find the few remaining words without any assistance from your labors. Of the hundred and twenty-one words, you have given authorities, in your Dictionary, for only thirty-nine; but I can, without going out of my own library, furnish authorities, in all cases different from yours, for upwards of a hundred of them.

With respect to your inquiry, how many or which words I borrowed from you, I have already said that I did not know that a single one was inserted on your sole authority. I do not affirm this to have been the fact, for I am aware that oversights of this sort may happen; but if any have been so inserted, I sincerely regret the circumstance, and will engage to erase from my Dictionary every word that you will prove to have been thus inserted. But if I saw in your Dictionary a word with which I was familiar, or which I knew was in established use, or found in respectable authors, I regarded it as a word belonging, not exclusively to any individual, but to all who write and speak the language, to be used by them on all proper occasions, even though it was not to be found in any Dictionary but yours. Take, for example, the very common compound word *semi-annual*, one in your list which is not to be found in any of the English Dictionaries that I have examined, and you are entitled to the merit, so far as I know, of having been the first to insert this word in a Dictionary; yet you cannot doubt that I was familiar with this word before your Dictionary was published; and as I have had occasion to use it repeatedly in my other publications, I thought myself authorized to insert it also in my Dictionary. All the words in your own Dictionary were surely to be found in Dictionaries previously published, or had been previously used by other persons, except such as you coined or stamped anew, in order to enrich or embellish the language; and with regard to all words which owed their origin or new form to you, such as *ammony*, *bridegroom*, *canail*, *ieland*, *naivty*, *nightmar*, *prosopopy*, &c., it has been my intention scrupulously to avoid them, as being your own property, and I have not even inserted them in my Vocabulary of Words of Various Orthography, being willing that you should forever have the entire and exclusive possession and use of them. There is a considerable number of words in my Dictionary which are not to be found in yours; yet they have all, I believe, had the sanction of respectable usage: I can therefore claim no exclusive property in them; and you are perfectly welcome, as I have before intimated to you, to have them all inserted in your Dictionary.

Should you be disposed, sir, to pursue the examination of my Dictionary further, and honor me with any more of your inquiries, I will attend to them as promptly as my engagements may render it convenient.

Having paid such attention to your request as my engagements have permitted, and answered your inquiry, in some measure, I trust, to your satisfaction, I would now, sir, respectfully make a request of you, which is, *that you would be so good as to inform me whether the charges against me in the Worcester Palladium were occasioned by any statements made by you, or whether you have ever made, or are now ready to make, any such statements.*

Your compliance with this request will oblige

Your humble servant,

J. E. WORCESTER.

Dr. Worcester in another appendix adds:

It is no part of my design to commend my own Dictionary, or to disparage any other. But my purpose has been to defend myself against the false

charges which have been widely circulated throughout the country, with an intention to do me injury, and which great numbers, as I understand, have been made to believe.

A part of the correspondence between Dr. Webster and myself has been given in the preceding pages; and I have been advised to bring forward the whole of it, which would probably not be desired by the friends of Dr. Webster; and I might add other things relative to the subject; but I wish to do nothing more than the case would seem to require. I would have it understood that I do not shrink from the strictest scrutiny in this matter. I will not now go into the inquiry whether, in preparation of the last edition of Dr. Webster's Dictionary, an abstinence from the use of mine was observed equal to that which I practised in relation to Webster's. Greater liberty than I used may have been taken without causing any complaint from me.

The foregoing correspondence shows conclusively that Mr. Worcester is not indebted in the least to Mr. Webster for his "skill in Dictionary-making," notwithstanding the assertion of the Messrs. Merriam; and that he did not make an improper use of Mr. Webster's Dictionary in preparing his own. It also establishes a fact, in reference to Mr. Webster's knowledge of English Dictionaries, which needs no commentary from us.

In 1846 Mr. Worcester completed his "Universal and Critical Dictionary of the English Language," in the preface of which he took the precaution to make the following statement: "*With respect to Webster's Dictionary, which the compiler several years since abridged, he is not aware of having taken a single word, or the definition of a word, from that work, in the preparation of this.*" And yet this precaution, as we have shown, has failed to protect him from a repetition of the slanders which had been previously heaped upon him, and which he had so ably and completely refuted. Nor have these slanders been solely confined to this country. In a recent advertisement of the Messrs. Merriam, we notice the following elegant extract:

Mr. Worcester, having been employed by Dr. Webster or his family to abridge the American Dictionary of the English Language, some years afterwards, and subsequently to Dr. Webster's death, in presenting to the public a Dictionary of his own, of the same size as the Abridgment prepared by him of Webster, says, in his preface, that he "is not aware of having taken a single word, or the definition of a word," from Webster, in the preparation of his work.

Now mark this fact. An edition of Worcester's Dictionary has recently been published in London, and sought to be pushed there, in which the paragraph we have cited is carefully suppressed, and is advertised as "Webster's Critical and Pronouncing Dictionary, &c., enlarged and revised by Worcester." On the title-page Webster is placed first, in large type, and Worcester follows in another line, in smaller type, and the book is lettered on the back, "Webster's and Worcester's Dictionary!" This text, we think, needs no commentary.

We think it does. If the reader will examine a pamphlet, recently prepared by Dr. Worcester, entitled "A Gross Literary Fraud Exposed, relating to the Publication of Worcester's Dictionary in London," he cannot fail to perceive that this is, in the language of Washington Irving, "a bookseller's trick," to manufacture a reputation in London for Dr. Webster as a lexicographer, at the expense of Dr. Worcester. Publishing Worcester's Dictionary in England as Webster's may account for some of the flattering notices which Webster's Dictionary has recently received from that country.

In 1847 Messrs. G. & C. Merriam published "Webster's Quarto Dictionary," edited by Professor Goodrich. The very announcement of the work was the signal for a renewed attack upon Dr. Worcester. It was commenced by an article in the *American Review*, published at New York; the reputed author of which is the "PROFESSOR PORTER," whose opinions upon the comparative merits of Worcester's and Webster's Dictionaries the Messrs. Merriam so often quote. The character of the article may be inferred from Dr. Worcester's allusion to it in his recent pamphlet, as follows:

With respect to the manner in which my Dictionary has generally been noticed in Reviews and Literary Journals, so far as I have seen such notices, I have reason to be entirely satisfied. There is, however, an article upon it in the *American Review*, published in New York (written, as I have been informed, by a Professor at New Haven, at the time when the new edition of Dr. Webster's Dictionary was preparing at that place), which is in remarkable contrast to any other review of the work that I have seen. The reputed author of this article has been employed by the publishers of Dr. Webster's Dictionary as a public advocate of that work; and his notice of mine is so much to their purpose, that they have seen fit to insert a great part of it in their Advertising Pamphlet. Considering the circumstances under which this article was written, and the manifest object of it, such of the alleged imperfections in the Dictionary as are founded in truth are not greater or more numerous than might reasonably be expected.

As a specimen of the candor and truthfulness of the writer of this review, I quote a part of what he says in relation to what the author of the Dictionary has done with respect to words differently pronounced by different orthoëpists: "He has," says the reviewer, "collected and attached to every important word every method of pronouncing it that has ever been recommended by a writer, whether great or small, conceited or well-informed, judicious or affected."

Now, the following is the true statement of what is done, in the Dictionary, in relation to words differently pronounced by different orthoëpists, as may be seen on page 24: "The English authorities most frequently cited in this volume are Sheridan, Walker, Perry, Jones, Enfield, Fulton and Knight, Jameson, Knowles, Smart, and Reid, all of whom are authors of Pronouncing Dictionaries. In addition to these, various other English lexicographers and orthoëpists are frequently brought forward, as Bailey, Johnson, Kenrick, Ash, Dyche, Barclay, Entick, Scott, Nares, Maunder, Crabb, and several others; besides the distinguished American lexicographer, Dr. Webster."

The war thus commenced against Dr. Worcester and his Dictionaries has been prosecuted by the Messrs. Merriam, with but little cessation, to the present time. We might fill a volume by following them through all their misrepresentations; but we have controverted enough of them to convince the reader that most of their statements have no foundation in truth. They have chosen to depart from the usual honorable modes of transacting business, and, instead of relying upon the merits of the work in which they are interested, to extend its circulation, have resorted to unjust personal attacks upon an author of similar publications, who has never, in any instance, given them cause of offence. Having repelled these personal attacks, and proved the falsity of their charges, we leave the reader to characterize their conduct as he may deem proper.

We cannot, however, forbear making the inquiry, whether, in the preparation of the last edition of Webster's Quarto Dictionary, an abstinence from the use of Worcester's Dictionaries was observed, equal to that which was practised by Dr. Worcester in relation to Webster's. If the reader will take the trouble to compare the Dictionary originally prepared by Dr. Webster, and published in 1828, with Messrs. Merriam's present edition, he will not fail to perceive how much the latter has been enriched by words which are to be found in Dr. Worcester's Dictionaries, but not in any of the editions of Dr. Webster published previously to them, to say nothing of the *three thousand words* which Mr. Worcester introduced into the octavo edition of Webster. It is known to the public that Mr. Worcester spent much time and labor in preparing a list of Modern Geographical Names, which he inserted in his Comprehensive Dictionary in 1830, and also in the Universal and Critical Dictionary, in 1846. This formed an *original* and valuable feature in his Dictionaries, a similar list never having been published before in any Dictionary in this country. How faithfully this list has been imitated in the Messrs. Merriam's Quarto Edition of Webster, and more recently in one of the smaller Dictionaries which they advertise, may be seen by a comparison of the works. We could instance numerous other features, in all the recent editions of Webster's Dictionaries, in which Mr. Worcester's "skill in Dictionary-making," to say the least, has been very highly complimented; but we will not weary the patience of the reader by presenting them.

It is no part of our purpose to reflect upon the literary character of Dr. Webster. He devoted many years of his life to the preparation of his Quarto Dictionary, which in many respects was considered a valuable accession to this department of literature. In his definitions he

displayed much industry, and gave evidence of severe and patient research; but in orthography and pronunciation his work was regarded by literary men as a decided failure. He mistook the province of a lexicographer, which is to record the language as it is used by the best speakers and writers, and attempted to introduce innovations which the public refused to sanction, and which his successors have, for the most part, been obliged to abandon. The present generation are but little acquainted with his efforts in this department. Many of those who profess to follow him as their standard have never seen his works. His Dictionaries (those actually made by him) have now become very rare, and are but little known. They can be found in some of our public libraries, and in the hands of antiquarians, where they are shown as literary curiosities.

The Messrs. Merriam publish to the world the following elegant and dignified extract:

The "*whining*" of Worcester's advocates is with regard to the spelling and pronunciation of a few words, which use is every year rendering nearer and nearer, and will soon completely render, Websterian; for the road to reach it is nothing in comparison to that already passed.

That the reader may judge for himself how far "use is every year rendering nearer and nearer" "the road" to "*Websterian*" orthography, we subjoin a list of words selected from Webster's Quarto Dictionary of 1828, Worcester's Dictionaries, and the Messrs. Merriam's edition of 1854. The words selected from the edition of 1828, as prepared by Dr. Webster himself, may be regarded as pure *Websterian* orthography. How far the editor of the Messrs. Merriam's edition has abandoned the innovations which Mr. Webster attempted to introduce, and how implicitly he has followed the true standard of orthography as represented by Dr. Worcester, may be seen by a comparison of the following columns:

Webster. Edition of 1828.	Worcester. First published in 1830.	Webster. Edition of 1854
Aker		
Acre	Acre	Acre
Brunet		
Brunette	Brunette	Brunette
Duse		
Deuce	Deuce	Deuce Deuse Duse

Webster. Edition of 1828.	Worcester. First published in 1830.	Webster. Edition of 1854.
Gammut	Gamut	Gamut
Hagard	Haggard	Haggard
Leather		
Lether	Leather	Leather
Lodestone		
Loadstone	Loadstone	Loadstone
Pontif	Pontiff	Pontiff
Redout	Redoubt	Redoubt
Rout	Route	Route
Sherif	Sheriff	Sheriff
Maneuver	Manœuvre	Maneuver
		Manœuvre
Melasses		Molasses
Molasses	Molasses	Melasses
Ieland		Island
Island	Island	Ieland
Canail	Canaille	Canaille
Suveran		
Sovereign	Sovereign	Sovereign
Spread		
Spred	Spread	Spread
Subtil	Subtile	Subtile
Tarif	Tariff	Tariff
Turnep	Turnip	Turnip
Zink	Zinc	Zinc
Furlow	Furlough	Furlough
Bridegoom		
Bridegroom	Bridegroom	Bridegroom
Bild		
Build	Build	Build
Burlesk		
Burlesque	Burlesque	Burlesque
Chints	Chintz	Chintz
Crum	Crumb	Crumb
		Crum
Turkey		
Turky	Turkey	Turkey
Terce		
Tierce	Tierce	Tierce

Webster. Edition of 1828.	Worcester. First published in 1830.	Webster. Edition of 1854.
Tongue		
Tung	Tongue	Tongue
Thumb		
Thum	Thumb	Thumb
Thred		
Thread	Thread	Thread
Vise	Vice	Vice
Feather		
Fether	Feather	Feather
Encyclopedia		
Encyclopedy	Encyclopedia	Encyclopedia
Neighbor		
Nehboor	Neighbor	Neighbor
Nightmar	Nightmare	Nightmare
Ranedeer		
Raindeer		
Reindeer	Reindeer	Reindeer
Vultur		
Vulture	Vulture	Vulture

We might greatly extend this list, and in addition to it present the varied orthography of the same words, as found in the different editions of Dr. Webster's several works, but we have neither leisure nor patience for the task. By comparing the words with each other, as found in his first Spelling Book, his Dictionaries of 1806, of 1817, of 1828, of 1840, and in his New Spelling Book, the reader would be led to infer that he actually labored to see how inconsistent he could be with himself. He would also perceive that, instead of forcing Dr. Webster's innovations in orthography upon the country, his successors have been compelled to recede in every succeeding edition, approaching "nearer and nearer" to the standard as represented by Dr. Worcester.

The present editions of his works, however, contain too many innovations to receive the sanction of literary men, and cannot, therefore, be considered a safe standard for the instruction of youth, even if they contained but one form of spelling; but, in abandoning some of the changes which Dr. Webster attempted to introduce, his successors have, in numerous cases, to avoid the appearance of inconsistency, retained the false orthography in connection with the true, which can only tend to confuse and perplex the learner.

The *Boston Daily Advertiser*, in commenting upon this subject, says, "It is true that it is stated in the pamphlet before us, 'that the spelling of the words to which any objection has been anticipated is given not in a single, but in a *double form*, so that a choice is left between the two. The person who opens to one of those words finds it spelled after two methods, each of which is given in the same type, as they stand side by side.' The privilege of choosing between the two spellings, thus allowed, immediately suggests the happy state of the little boy, who, when he asked the menagerie-keeper which animal was the elephant and which the monkey, was answered, 'Either you please, my dear; you have paid your money, and may take your choice.'"

That the public may become acquainted with Webster's orthography, as corrected, amended, and authorized by his heirs, in the Dictionary now claimed to be the STANDARD AUTHORITY, the following illustration is taken from the *Boston Mercantile Journal*:

The English language might be greatly improved were there any *center* around which the people could rally, or had we a few men of sufficient *caliber* to compel the mass to imitate them. Unluckily, few scholars have reached a *height* sufficiently elevated to command attention, or, having reached it, they have become the most rigid conservatives. The *somber specter* of injured usage seems to rise and warn them not to attempt to *remold* what time has *modeled*, and covered with venerable *oxyd*. Were all the anomalies of our *unequaled* orthography collected in one head, so that one stroke of a *saber* could sever them all, and send them to repose forever in the *sepulcher* of awkward and perhaps useless things, one would be *marvelously willfull* not to be ready to strain every *fiber* to make the stroke effectual; but it is trifling to kill a snake joint by joint, *verteber* by *verteber*, as Dr. Webster proposes. It is to be regretted that the noble writers who perfected our language, and have rarely been *equaled* by the best of their successors, did not lay down rules for the reduction of all anomalous words to a uniform rule, as they might have done, had they been thoughtful; whereas they only fixed irregularity, and, by the *luster* of their talents, brought on a *thralldom*, the end of which no earthly *traveler* can foretell. I am not a *worshiper* of antiquity, but I cannot lay aside habits as easily as a bird *molts* its feathers. It is an *offense* to me to see old usages set aside or *canceled*, under *pretense* of reform, when the reform, if it be one, is too partial to do any good. The *theater* of a man's actions may be very circumscribed, but the humblest can *practice* what is just, in language as well as in conduct, and be a *counselor* and a *defense* to the weak and erring. To *fulfill* our duty, we should endeavor to *instill* into other minds, and exhibit in our own, a love of truth and simplicity; for, as *niter* is powerless until mixed with carbon, so virtue is useless until by blending with society it finds objects, is tried, and becomes invigorated.

This is a specimen of the "*Websterian*" orthography, which the Messrs. Merriam are vainly attempting to force upon the schools of the country; but intelligent and educated teachers will never adopt it. We quote again from the article in the *Advertiser*, because its opinions upon this subject so exactly accord with our own. "The whole matter

is very simple. A great many people like Webster's Dictionary for its definitions, its etymological information, &c. *Very few* like it for its spelling — there is scarcely a single word in favor of its spelling among all the praises of it. Its value as a Dictionary depends upon the relative importance he assigns to these two features. It naturally enough happens that men of eminence in the literary world, who have already learned how to spell, and who are in the habit of referring to a Dictionary for every other purpose except that of ascertaining the orthography of words, are willing to overlook its deficiency in this respect, and speak in its praise. If they take the trouble to mention that they do not follow its orthography, the Messrs. Merriam can suppress that part of their remarks, as they did in the case of Washington Irving. Whether they mention it or not, in point of fact, generally speaking, they do not follow the orthography.

“For young persons, as we have said, or those who are not so perfectly grounded in orthography as to be in no danger of falling into error from seeing frequently, in a book of reference, words wrongly spelt, its use cannot be recommended, and is not, even by those who are willing to speak well of the work in other respects.”

It is a fact worthy of mention, that, although many literary men in the country have made courteous acknowledgments to the Messrs Merriam for an elegantly bound copy of the Quarto Dictionary, and spoken in complimentary terms of it as a book of reference, not one of them having the slightest claim to eminence in scholarship has in his published works adopted Webster's orthography as a standard. Take, for instance, the beautiful edition of the late Hon. Daniel Webster's works, recently issued by the well-known publishing house of Messrs. Little & Brown. *Mr. Webster adopts Worcester's orthography. So with Everett, Irving, Bancroft, Prescott, Longfellow, Sparks, Hillard, Ticknor, Hawthorne, Bryant, Whipple, and others.* Even Messrs. G. & C. Merriam themselves do not adopt the “Websterian” orthography. If the reader will examine the following law-books published by them, and bearing their imprint on the title-page, namely, “*Chitty on Contracts,*” “*Chitty on Pleading,*” and “*Chitty on Bills,*” he will perceive that WORCESTER'S STANDARD OF ORTHOGRAPHY is implicitly followed in every line. Thus we see that the Messrs. Merriam, while urging Webster's Dictionary upon the public in different sections of the country, as they say to secure “uniformity of orthography and pronunciation for the millions that are to constitute this vast republic,” in publishing a series of law-books, which are to be used exclusively *by educated men,* have repudiated Webster's orthography, and followed Worcester's standard.

In January, 1852, Governor Wood, of Ohio, in a message to the Legislature of that State, said: "*In Massachusetts every school is furnished by the State with Webster's Dictionary, as the standard work of orthography and pronunciation,*"—and the publishers of Webster's Dictionary copied this statement into their list of recommendations.

We know not from what source Governor Wood obtained his information upon this subject; but the statement is incorrect, and we confess our surprise that the publishers of Webster's Dictionary, who reside in Massachusetts, and who must have known it to be so, should have indorsed the assertion by giving publicity to it.

We noticed several other statements in the Ohio journals, in reference to the use of Webster's Dictionary in the schools of Massachusetts, which we did not understand at the time, but which have since been accounted for by the fact that a resolution was afterwards introduced into the Ohio Legislature, and actually passed in the Senate, to introduce Webster's Quarto Dictionary into the public schools of that State. But in the House of Representatives, after this "bookseller's trick" had been exposed, the resolution was defeated by a large majority.

We publicly informed Governor Wood, at the time, that in Massachusetts the State has no authority to prescribe text-books for schools, as this power is vested in the school committees of the several cities and towns, and that Webster's Dictionary is not used as the standard work for orthography and pronunciation in every school, as will be seen by the following certificate:

Boston, May 12, 1852.

I hereby certify that on the 14th day of August, 1834, WORCESTER'S DICTIONARY was introduced into the grammar schools of Boston. From that time to the present, the Dictionaries of this author have been continued, by the school committee, as the STANDARD AUTHORITY in the public schools of the city.

Attest:

EDWARD CAPEN,
Secretary of the School Committee.

The Messrs. Merriam, instead of retracting the statement which they had indorsed, say, in their Advertising Pamphlet, "Gov. Wood, of Ohio, in his annual message to the Legislature, in January, 1852, in considering the educational interests of that State, adverted to what Massachusetts and New York had done in placing Webster's Unabridged Dictionary in their schools as their standard work, and spoke of its being thus regarded almost universally where the English language is spoken. The publishers of Worcester controvert this, affirming that Worcester's School Dictionaries are used in most of the principal cities and towns throughout the State," &c.

We now repeat that the statement of Gov. Wood, in his message, namely, that "*in Massachusetts every school is furnished by the State with Webster's Dictionary as the standard work of orthography and pronunciation,*" is incorrect. Gov. Wood had doubtless been misinformed, but the Messrs. Merriam, when they copied this statement into their advertisement, must have known it to be untrue. We do not intend to permit these gentlemen to evade the responsibility of meeting our charge by misrepresenting the language we used; but we hold them responsible to the public for indorsing a statement which they knew to be void of truth.

Messrs. G. & C. Merriam have recently published an advertisement of Webster's Dictionary, from which we make the following extract :

IN MASSACHUSETTS, where Worcester was compiled and published, the Legislature having offered to each school district, with no cost to the district in either case, and nothing to control its choice but the merits of the works, a copy of Webster or Worcester, at its option, THREE THOUSAND AND THIRTY-FIVE of the districts, within the first few months, ordered WEBSTER, and but one hundred and five took Worcester — THIRTY TO ONE selecting Webster as their STANDARD WORK.

The following explanation will show, that, in the selection of so large a number of Webster's Dictionaries in preference to Worcester's, the several school committees were not wholly influenced by the comparative "merits of the works," and that they did not select Webster's Dictionary "as their STANDARD WORK."

In May, 1850, the Legislature of Massachusetts passed the following order :

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Board of Education be, and he hereby is, authorized to furnish each district and other public school in the Commonwealth, except primary schools, a copy of Noah Webster's Unabridged Quarto Dictionary, or Joseph E. Worcester's Octavo Dictionary, at the option of the school committee of each town, and that the expense thereof be paid out of the school fund: *Provided*, that the said Webster's Dictionary may be obtained at a cost not exceeding four dollars, and said Worcester's Dictionary at a cost of not more than two dollars. [Approved by the Governor, May 2, 1850.]

The several cities and towns of the Commonwealth, availing themselves of the liberality of the Legislature, supplied their schools, in compliance with the resolve, and more of Webster's than Worcester's were called for. The reason for this is obvious. The books were offered to the several school districts *free of cost*; and the school committees were left to decide whether they would receive a copy of Webster's Quarto Dictionary, which cost the State *four* dollars, or a copy of Worcester's Octavo, which cost but *two*. Many of the committees

selected Webster's because their schools were already supplied with Worcester's; others took Webster's from the State, and voted to *purchase* Worcester's; and we doubt not there were some who chose Webster's because they valued a present which cost *four* dollars more than one which cost only *two*. The school committees of Boston and Cambridge, for instance, voted to receive Webster's Dictionary from the State, in accordance with the resolve; but they did not adopt it "*as their standard work.*" They accepted Webster's Dictionary as a gift from the State; but they voted to purchase Worcester for their "STANDARD AUTHORITY;" and we shall furnish testimony that it is used as such.

We wish it to be distinctly understood that, in reviewing the statements made by the Messrs. Merriam, we do not mean to speak in terms of disparagement of Webster's Quarto Dictionary as a book of reference. We regard it as a valuable work, and should be happy to see a copy of it in every school-room in the country; but we do not consider it a safe guide in orthography and pronunciation, and in this opinion we are sustained by the best practical educators in the country. Some of the distinguished teachers of the Boston schools, for instance, have furnished letters highly commendatory of the book as a work of reference, but all concur in signing the following certificate:

Boston, September 13, 1852.

Worcester's Dictionaries are used in our schools as the STANDARD AUTHORITY IN THE ORTHOGRAPHY AND PRONUNCIATION of the English language.

FRANCIS GARDNER,	Latin School.
THOMAS SHERWIN,	English High Schbol.
W. H. SEAVEY,	Eliot School.
SAMUEL L. GOULD,	Franklin School.
SAMUEL SWAN,	Mayhew School.
SAMUEL BARRETT,	Hawes School.
JOHN C. DORE,	} Boylston School.
CHARLES KIMBALL,	
A. ANDREWS,	Bowdoin School
GEORGE ALLEN, JR.,	Hancock School.
CORNELIUS WALKER,	} Wells School.
REUBEN SWAN,	
JOSEPH HALE,	} Johnson School.
RICHARD G. PARKER,	
HENRY WILLIAMS, JR.,	Winthrop School.
H. H. LINCOLN,	} Lyman School.
ISAAC F. SHEPARD,	
JOSIAH A. STEARNS,	} Mather School.
JONATHAN BATTLES,	
JOSHUA BATES, JR.,	Brimmer School.
JAMES HOVEY,	} Phillips School.
BENJAMIN DREW,	

GEORGE B. HYDE, }	}	Dwight School.
JAMES A. PAGE, }		
J. D. PHILBRICK,		Quincy School.
FREDERICK CRAFTS,		Bigelow School.
J. P. AVERILL, }	}	Chapman School.
J. F. NOURSE, }		

The truth is, that Webster's Quarto Dictionary, although a valuable book of reference in many respects for teachers, is not a convenient book, on account of its size, for the daily use of children; for good order cannot be maintained in a large school where children are constantly leaving their seats to consult a Dictionary. They should be provided with a smaller work as a hand-book, to be consulted as occasion may require. In support of this opinion we quote the following extract from the Annual Report of the School Committee of Boston for 1851:

Instances of mispronunciation also occurred; and, on calling for a Dictionary, none was at hand. A fine edition of Webster's large work lay on the master's table in another story, but, for all practical uses, where it was then wanted, it might as well have been in Texas. It is recommended that all the teachers be required to have Dictionaries in their several rooms. It is also proposed that all the younger pupils be required to have Worcester's Primary Dictionary, and the more advanced pupils his Comprehensive Pronouncing and Explanatory Dictionary. These books are very cheap, and for the price are the most valuable school books in the English language.

The pupils of the first and second classes of all the grammar schools in Boston are now required, by a vote of the School Committee, to have a copy of WORCESTER'S DICTIONARY as a hand-book for daily use; and the following extract, from the Report of the Annual Visiting Committee for 1853, will show with what success it is used:

In some schools, Worcester's Comprehensive Dictionary was upon every pupil's desk, and the prompt replies showed the good use that had been made of it. We found in one school a practice which we would recommend our teachers to pursue. In every reading lesson a sentence was given out for definition, and every word was defined in course by the class; and thus, all those little common words, such as *if, with, in, as, &c.*, of which we all think we know the meaning, till we are called to define them, were considered by the pupils, their origin sought out, the manner shown in which, from being first verbs or nouns, they came to be employed as connectives, their appropriate uses taught, and also the relation which they sustain to other words in the language.

The Messrs. Merriam publish a letter from Mr. S. N. Taylor, Principal of Phillips Academy, commendatory of Webster's Dictionary, and they inform the public, that this letter is concurred in by Mr. ELBRIDGE SMITH, Master of the Cambridge High School; yet the

reader will see, by the following certificate, that Mr. Smith, as well as all the teachers in Cambridge, adopt Worcester as their standard.

FROM THE PRINCIPALS OF THE CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Cambridge, October 18, 1852.

Worcester's Dictionaries are used in our schools as the STANDARD AUTHORITY IN THE ORTHOGRAPHY AND PRONUNCIATION of the English language.

ELBRIDGE SMITH,	High School.
BENJ. W. ROBERTS,	Broadway School.
AARON B. MAGOUN,	Harvard School.
ALVAH C. SMITH,	Mason School.
DANIEL MANSFIELD,	Washington School.
WILLIAM H. LADD,	Shepard School.
J. M. LASSEL,	Putnam School.
N. K. NOBLE,	Otis School.

The Messrs. Merriam inform us that PROF. S. S. GREENE, Superintendent of Public Schools in Providence, also concurred in the letter of Mr. Taylor; and, to make the fact more impressive, republish Mr. Taylor's letter in the same pamphlet as Mr. Greene's, and with the broad seal of Rhode Island annexed. Professor Greene is the author of the best work on Analysis in the English language, and the Messrs Merriam doubtless very correctly supposed that his opinion would be highly esteemed by practical teachers throughout the country; but, unfortunately for them, Mr. Greene does not consider Webster's Dictionary as his standard. He has followed Worcester's standard of orthography in all his grammars, and has kindly sent us the following certificate:

I regard Worcester's Dictionary as a STANDARD WORK ON THE ORTHOGRAPHY AND PRONUNCIATION of the English language, and as such I keep it in constant use.

S. S. GREENE.

Nor is this all the testimony from Rhode Island. Read the following from the Secretary of the School Committee of Providence:

Providence, R. I., May 10, 1852.

I hereby certify that Worcester's series of Dictionaries is, and has been for a number of years, the STANDARD AUTHORITY in the public schools of this city.

EDWARD R. YOUNG.

MR. GEORGE B. EMERSON, a member of the Massachusetts Board of Education, one of the most successful and distinguished educators in the United States, and a person whose opinion will be regarded with great interest by all practical educators, has kindly sent us the following letter for publication:

Boston, January 31, 1853.

MESSRS. JENKS, HICKLING & SWAN.

GENTLEMEN: You ask my opinion of Worcester's Dictionary. I have constantly used it since it was first published, and have always had near me,

at the same time, the other best English Dictionaries I could find. For all the common uses of a Dictionary I consider it the very best I have ever seen. The author indulges in no whims in spelling or pronouncing, or as to the meaning of words. In each of these particulars he follows the best authorities, and, where there is room for doubt, he gives the various opinions, and leaves the student to judge for himself. I consider it a great merit in this Dictionary, especially for the use of a people remote from the original source of the language, that it does nothing to corrupt the language by giving authority to vulgarisms or provincialisms. On the contrary, the use of it tends to keep the language pure in its vocabulary, and uniform and consistent with the best English usage in spelling and in pronunciation.

Respectfully yours,

GEORGE B. EMERSON.

At a meeting of the Essex County Association of Teachers, recently held at Lynn, Mass., the following certificate was cheerfully signed by some of its prominent members :

Lynn, October 16, 1852.

Worcester's Dictionaries are used in our schools as the STANDARD AUTHORITY IN THE ORTHOGRAPHY AND PRONUNCIATION of the English language.

J. S. EATON,	:	Phillips Academy, Andover.
H. BRICKETT,	. . . . .	Brown High School, Newb'yp't.
M. P. CASE,	. . . . .	Female High School, Newb'yp't.
THOS. BARTLETT,	}	Grammar Schools.
N. A. MOULTON,		
C. S. PENNELL,	. . . . .	High School, Lawrence.
JOHN BATCHELDER,	}	Grammar Schools, Lynn.
JOS. PEABODY, JR.,		
M. W. STEVENS,		
JAMES H. DAVIS,	}	Amesbury Academy.
WILLIAM W. BURR,		
C. E. BRADFORD,	. . . . .	Danvers.
DAVID L. BARTLETT,	. . . . .	Salisbury.

The School Committee of Dorchester accepted Webster's Quarto Dictionary from the State, for a part of their schools; but the teachers do not consider it their "standard authority," as will be seen by the following testimony :

Dorchester, February 3, 1854.

Worcester's Dictionaries are used in our schools as the STANDARD AUTHORITY IN THE ORTHOGRAPHY AND PRONUNCIATION of the English language.

WM. J. ROLFE,	. . . . .	High School.
FRANCIS B. SNOW,	. . . . .	Adams School.
ELWELL WOODBURY,	. . . . .	Everett School.
ROBERT VOSE, JR.,	. . . . .	Gibson School.
JOHN KNEELAND,	. . . . .	Mather School.
ELBRIDGE G. EMERY,	. . . . .	Norfolk School.
CHARLES F. PATCH,	. . . . .	Washington School.
ISAAC SWAN,	. . . . .	Winthrop School.

We might extend this list by publishing similar certificates in our possession from teachers in other places; but we think we have clearly

shown that the several school committees who selected Webster's Dictionary for their schools were not wholly influenced by the superior merits of the book, and that they did not select it "AS THEIR STANDARD WORK." We have also established the fact that Worcester's Dictionaries are used as the authority for orthography and pronunciation in the best schools in Massachusetts and also in Rhode Island.

Messrs. G. & C. Merriam publish extracts from letters received from booksellers in some of the towns in "Western Massachusetts," to show that more of Webster's Dictionaries than Worcester's are sold by them. We cannot better reply than by publishing an extract from an article in the *Boston Transcript* of October 12, 1850 :

It may be remarked that Massachusetts has never been a great patron of Webster's school books ; and the abstract of the school returns, at the office of the Secretary of the Board of Education, shows that they are used only in the poorest schools in this Commonwealth. The lowest towns in the State, in point of appropriations for school purposes, use Webster's books ; and we are informed, by an intelligent authority, that in several counties the towns which foot the lists use Webster's books ; and that the abstract referred to does not show that a single town in the State, above mediocrity in point of appropriations, uses them.

It is not necessary to draw the inference from these facts. Some of these books are of low price, and immense efforts are made to sell them all ; and if these efforts are successful, and this argues their superiority, then the same kind of reasoning, applied in another direction, would place sarsaparilla at the head of the *materia medica*, and exalt Dr. Townsend to that eminence among the medical faculty which the admirers of Noah Webster seek for him among lexicographers and book-makers.

In speaking of the action of the Legislature of the State of New York, providing for the supply of Webster's Quarto Dictionary for the common schools in that State, the Messrs. Merriam in one of their pamphlets say, "WORCESTER WAS NOT ONCE PROPOSED OR THOUGHT OF."

We replied that we knew not what might have been the "thoughts" of the members of the New York Legislature upon this subject ; but we remembered to have read with great interest, at the time, the following able report from the Hon. James W. Beekman, Chairman of the Committee on Literature. Mr. Beekman is an accomplished scholar ; and whether he "thought of Worcester" or not, in preparing his report, we leave the public to judge.

STATE OF NEW YORK.

No. 89.

In Senate, July 7, 1851.

REPORT

Of Minority of Committee on Literature in reference to the purchase by School Districts of Webster's Dictionary.

The Chairman of the Committee on Literature, unable to agree with the

other members of that committee in recommending Webster's Dictionary as suitable to be purchased by school districts throughout the State, reports,—

That the importance of placing a proper standard of orthography and language in the hands of the million of children at this time attending the common schools of New York, is with difficulty appreciated. First teachings are hard to unlearn, and the spelling and pronunciation acquired at the primary schools are likely to remain fixed for life. The admitted objection to introducing by authority any book as a text book into a system of schools, which owe their excellence to a wholesome rivalry among their various boards of trustees, applies with ten-fold force to a Dictionary. A recommendation from the Secretary of State, in his capacity of Superintendent of Common Schools, has sufficient force; and it is eminently proper that in his discretion he should suggest to the districts the names of books which his leisure and opportunities enable him to criticize. But when the Legislature, by enactment, undertakes to say that the library money shall be expended for the purchase of a certain work, and that, unless orders to the contrary are sent to the central department, that book shall be paid for by the State, and its cost kept back out of the library fund due to each district, serious mischief must result.

One successful application to the State on the part of a publisher will open the way for another, until presently the whole fund will be paid out, by authority, at Albany, without allowing the smallest choice to local trustees. A premium for importunity is thus offered, which must assuredly soon fill the few shelves of the district library with trash as vile as any which the ignorance of rural book buyers, as alleged by the friends of Webster, could select. In the case now presented to the Senate, the work proposed to be sent by authority into the twelve thousand school-houses is one concerning which men of letters are far from being agreed. The purest writers of English refuse to admit its claims as the standard. By immense exertions a large array of names, not unknown to fame, has been collected in recommendation of the book. Those favorable notices, however, relate rather to its convenience as a reference than to its value as a Dictionary. Sir Richard Phillips' *Million of Facts* is an invaluable *vade mecum*, but is far from an English Dictionary. Webster packs together a mass of words and phrases in almost every language, and calling the whole "An American Dictionary of the English Language," we are asked to receive it as the best Dictionary extant — as promoting great reforms in orthography, and as shedding new light upon etymology.

It is assumed that Webster is an acknowledged standard of the language. High authority may be adduced to the contrary, but it may be well to say here that Webster has published four or five Dictionaries, all differing from each other. These successive editions do not advance upon the principle first assumed, namely, that of leaving out all superfluous letters, and introducing a succinctness and terseness of spelling which would commend itself to universal esteem by its convenience and neatness. On the contrary, the Merriam edition, which the State now proposes to buy, retrogrades from the orthography of the edition of 1828 and of 1845. The word *build*, for instance, is spelt in both the former editions *bild*. A pupil in the New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb lately persisted in spelling upon his slate the word without the *u*, insisting that he was right; and, upon being permitted by his teacher to go to the library, at his earnest request, returned, bearing Webster open at the place, in triumph, to prove himself right. The Merriam edition resumes the *u*, spelling the word *build*, and therefore does not fulfil the promise on its title-page, that it contains the entire corrections and improvements of the second edition, in two volumes royal octavo. In that edition the spelling is "*bild*." Webster is but a vacillating reformer.

"Webster," says an able critic, "began his career as a lexicographer by

spelling words as they are pronounced — *aker, soe, iland, stedly, wimmen, lether, imagin*; he ended by making a Dictionary valuable for its definitions, scientific terms, old and obsolete words, and generally for its etymologies — although these were sometimes fanciful, and sometimes adapted to a specific purpose."

No American writers of eminence spell by its rules. Neither Irving, nor Bancroft, nor Bryant, nor Hawthorne, recognizes its authority. The cheap publications of the Harpers have done more to create provincialisms — a literary evil from which America has hitherto escaped — than any one who has not given attention to the subject would believe. Should the State of New York add its *imprimatur*, we may have, ere long, expurgated editions of the "Wars of Granada," or of "Twice-told Tales," of the "Pilgrim's Progress," or the "Vicar of Wakefield," done into American prose — the spelling curtailed, in the Bloomer style, to the most utilitarian and bandy-legged proportions, and a "crebrous claudication," to use Websterian English, jingling in every line.

Washington Irving, in reply to a letter of inquiry addressed to him by the Chairman of the Committee on Literature, says :

"Sunnyside, June 25, 1851.

"DEAR SIR : Several months since, I received from Messrs. G. & C. Merriam a copy of their quarto edition of Webster's Dictionary. In acknowledging the receipt of it, I expressly informed them that I did not make it my standard of orthography, and gave them my reasons for not doing so, and for considering it an unsafe standard for American writers to adopt. At the same time I observed the work had so much merit in many respects *that I made it quite a vade mecum*.

"They had the disingenuousness to extract merely the part of my opinion which I have underlined, and to insert it among their puffs and advertisements, as if I had given a general and unqualified approbation of the work. I have hitherto suffered this bookseller's trick to pass unnoticed ; but your letter obliges me to point it out, and to express my decided opinion that Webster's Dictionary is not a work advisable to be introduced 'by authority' into our schools as a standard of orthography.

"I am, sir, with great respect,

"Your obedient servant,

"WASHINGTON IRVING.

"To Hon. JAMES W. BEEKMAN,
Chairman of the Senate Committee of Literature."

Mr. Bancroft, the historian, cordially approves the opposition now made to the introduction of any Dictionary by authority. He has never been willing to adopt the Websterian mode of spelling.

"Webster's career," says Edward S. Gould, in a letter to the chairman of your committee, "was a mistake, because based on false assumptions. He assumed that the language needed reformation, and that he was able to reform it; the latter blunder being far the greater of the two. He began forty years or more ago on the extreme of his own theory, and his first false step was to mistake the duties of a lexicographer, whose province is to *record*, not to *legislate*; to say what the language is, and not what it should be. Webster assumed the right to make and alter in conformity to his own views; and assuming that superfluous letters were an orthographical evil, and that conformity between the spelling and the pronunciation of words was an orthographical desideratum, he almost went to the extent of our contemporaneous phonographers. Finding, however, on experiment, that this would not do, that the storm of criticism he had provoked was more than he or his book could bear, he began to modify to suit the critics. He published, in a course of years, five different Dictionaries, all in retreat from his original ground, and stopped modifying only when he stopped breathing; and his literary heir and successor and son-in-law, Goodrich, thinks it strange that everybody is not satisfied with these concessions on the part of Webster! —

as if a shopkeeper were to demand \$5 for an article worth \$1, and then, after chaffering, and finally and gradually falling to \$2.50, cite the fact of his taking off half of this first price to prove the \$2.50 must be cheap.

"The present difficulty with Webster's Dictionary is, its *total want of a principle*. To spell words as they are pronounced, and strike out all superfluous letters, although radicalism and folly, is still a principle of action; but to abandon that, and vacillate capriciously between that and the previously recognized system, is mere quackery and irresolute nonsense, and its tendency, when at all countenanced, is what we see — a confusion in orthography such as was not previously known since the *establishing* of the language by Johnson.

"Webster's rules are both arbitrary and capricious. He changes, for example, *theatre* into *theater*, because, he says, words ending in *re*, adopted from the French, must be transposed to *er*: yet in the derivative he transfers the *er*, that is, the termination, back again to make '*theatrical*.' Here the derivative does not control the primitive. Again, he changes *defence* into *defense*, because the derivative *defensive* requires the *s*. There the derivative does control the primitive.

"He changes *distil* into *distill*, 'because the derivative *distiller*, &c., requires the double *l*.' Here again the derivative controls the primitive; but he does *not* change the *forget* into *forgett*, although the derivative *forgetting*, &c., requires the double *tt*; so that there, still again, the derivative does not control the primitive.

"He strikes the *u* from *mould*, because it is superfluous; he strikes the *u* from *hŏur*, *favour*, &c., because it is superfluous; but he does not strike the *o* from *serious*, *courage*, &c., where it is as superfluous. He strikes out *l* from *traveller*, &c., because it is superfluous; yet he spells *excellent*, *vacillate*, &c., with two *l*'s. He spells *profit* with one *f*, yet, with the inconsistency that marks all his career, he does not strike the second *f* from *proffer*. It is true he is right in this last forbearance, but he is, as everywhere else, inconsistent.

"The sum of the matter is, that Webster was a vain, weak, plodding Yankee, ambitious to be an American Johnson, without one substantial qualification for the undertaking, and the American public have ignored his pretensions. One publisher of note has adopted his orthography, because he publishes his Dictionary, and one newspaper editor of note has done the same thing; but beyond these two establishments, neither of which can claim any authority as umpires in a literary question, Webster's orthography is as unpopular as it is abominable; and I hardly know how our Legislature could do a greater wrong to popular education than by inflicting Webster's radicalism on the rising generation."

William Cullen Bryant, whose name stands foremost among American poets, in his journal of June 20 (*New York Evening Post*), says that "so far is Webster's Dictionary from meeting with the general acceptance of scholars and the community, that of those who, in different parts of our country and of the world, employ our common language, that noble vehicle of thought which we call *English*, with a moderate degree of attention to its purity, there are not ten in a hundred who 'accept' Webster's Dictionary as a standard of language; nay, the majority of them have in fact no acquaintance with it."

Against such authority is opposed a list of names eminent in law, in politics, and in theology, as well as in literature; men whose good nature, as in the case of Washington Irving, led them to return a courteous acknowledgment for an elegantly-bound literary present. We have names such as Brougham, Daniel Webster, Thomas H. Benton, Fillmore, Polk and Zachary Taylor, a certificate signed by one hundred and four members of Congress, "that they rejoice it bids fair to become the standard Dictionary to be

used by the numerous millions of people who are to inhabit the United States." We have a complimentary letter from the well-known and estimable Thomas Dick, of Broughty Ferry, near Dundee; and, finally, paraded in capitals, there is the gracious assertion of the *London Times*, that Webster's is "the best and most useful Dictionary of the English language ever published."

To meet this testimony, it has been shown that men whose pursuits lead them to estimate lexicons at their true value take views very unfavorable to Webster; and it is not unreasonable to say that, while Presidents of the United States and members of Congress are excellent judges of politics, clergymen equally good critics in matters ecclesiastical, and newspaper writers competent admirers of convenient encyclopædias, neither of these classes are authority on a matter of literature.

It has been urged in the report, by the Senator from the 27th (Mr. Miller), in favor of the Dictionary, that "there is no one point to which the attention of the guardians of our schools should be directed with a more watchful or earnest attention than to the training of all the pupils to a competent and correct acquaintance with our mother tongue. Especial care needs to be bestowed on this subject, in consideration of the fact that the multitude of foreigners, with their children, whom we welcome to our shores, are all to learn to speak and write the English language; and since many of these are accustomed to another language at home, and often to a mixed and mongrel dialect, we ought, as far as possible, in the district schools in which they are educated, to give them a standard, and to accustom them to its use."

Precisely because Webster is not a standard of English diction, ought we to withhold him from the children of the foreigner, who, recognizing on every page words and phrases of his own, will not fail to add others, and to hasten the corruption of our tongue; as, for instance, there are French phrases, like *ci-devant*, *comme il faut*, *neuvaines*; Italian ones, like *cicisbeo*, *zinfornando*, *staccato*; Spanish, such as *ranchero*, *hidalgo*, *donna*; Dutch, as *domine*; Scotch, as *ingie*, *cannie*, and so on.

For all these reasons, the undersigned reports that, in his judgment, the introduction of Webster's Dictionary, in the manner proposed by the bill now before the Legislature, into the school districts of the State, would be unwise, because Webster's Dictionary is neither an English Dictionary nor a standard of orthography.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES W. BEEKMAN,

Chairman of the Committee on Literature.

Senate Chamber, July, 1851.

The Messrs. Merriam further state, in their advertisements, that "*In the Empire State of New York, and at the West, Worcester is almost wholly unknown.*"

We doubt not that the practical teachers "in the Empire State of New York, and at the West," will be greatly surprised at this information. It is our good fortune to enjoy the acquaintance of many of the most eminent teachers, not only of "the Empire State of New York, and at the West," but of every section of the country, and we do not remember to have conversed with a single individual upon the subject who did not express a preference for Worcester's Dictionaries for the school-room. Many of them speak in terms of commendation of

Webster's Quarto Dictionary as a book of reference, but all concur in saying that "Worcester's Comprehensive Pronouncing and Explanatory Dictionary, as a hand-book for scholars, is the best Dictionary of the English language extant." Let us examine the testimony, and see how far the statement of Messrs. G. & C. Merriam, that "*in the Empire State of New York, and at the West, Worcester is almost wholly unknown,*" is true.

From MR. JOSEPH MCKEEN, *Superintendent of Common Schools for the City of New York.*

New York, January 25, 1853.

Worcester's Universal and Critical Dictionary has been with me a standard work in orthography and pronunciation for several years. I know of no other English Dictionary comparable with this in these respects. All teachers and public speakers will do well to have this Dictionary at hand, as a reference book. I most cordially recommend the whole series of Dictionaries by Joseph E. Worcester, as the best works of the kind with which I am acquainted.

JOSEPH MCKEEN.

The Book Committee of the Ward School Teachers' Association of the city of New York, consisting of

Messrs. SENECA DURAND,
EDWARD McILROY, and
JOHN WALSH,

subjoined to a very able and highly-favorable report upon Worcester's Dictionary the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Association recommend the adoption of Mr. J. E. Worcester's Dictionary into all our schools.

This resolution *was adopted*, and Worcester's Comprehensive Pronouncing and Explanatory Dictionary is now used in the Free Academy of New York city, and in the ward and public schools. It is used in the public schools of Buffalo, Rochester, and other principal places in the State. We subjoin the following recommendations:

From TOWNSEND HARRIS, Esq., *late President of the Board of Education, New York City.*

The design, "to give the greatest quantity of useful matter in the most condensed form," has, in my opinion, been most happily accomplished; and I cheerfully recommend the work to teachers and the friends of education in general, who are desirous of securing a cheap and comprehensive Dictionary of the English tongue.

From JOSEPH MCKEE, *English and Classical Teacher, New York.*

Worcester's Comprehensive Dictionary is in every respect one of the most correct, convenient, and useful school Dictionaries in print. It is a book that should be found on every school-boy's desk.

I have examined Worcester's Dictionary, and fully concur in the above recommendation.

LEMUEL G. OLMSTEAD, A.M.,
Principal of Classical and English School, New York.

From ROBERT F. WINSLOW, *Commissioner of Common Schools, New York City.*

It contains several thousand words now in common use, but not to be found in any other English Dictionary. This alone, amongst its other excellences, entitles it to general favor, and indeed makes it indispensable in our schools, libraries, and literary institutions. It only requires to be examined carefully to insure its adoption as a standard by our best English scholars.

We fully concur in the above.

SAMUEL S. ST. JOHN,
Commissioner of Common Schools, New York City;
Principal of Ward School No. 10.
G. S. BROWN,
Principal of New England Institute, Bond-street, New York.

From PROFESSOR E. A. JOHNSON, *of University of the City of New York.*

The fulness and compass of the vocabulary, the minute and careful attention bestowed upon the subject of orthoëpy, the propriety of the orthography, the clearness and exactness of the definitions, together with the nice critical notes on unauthorized words, provincial usage, &c., which are found throughout the volume, are excellences which distinguish this above any other Dictionary within my knowledge.

From GEORGE W. CLARKE, M.A., *Associate Principal of Mount Washington Collegiate School, New York City.*

Mr. Worcester has, by the accuracy of his pronunciations, the brevity and pertinence of his definitions, and, in short, by the COMPREHENSIVE CHARACTER of his Dictionary, removed from the fifty millions who use the English language the necessity of consulting a variety of discordant, and of course unsatisfactory, authorities.

Rochester, January 10, 1852.

We have examined Worcester's Comprehensive Dictionary, and do not hesitate to pronounce it, in our opinion, the most comprehensive, accurate, and useful compendium within our knowledge, and we cheerfully recommend it as the Dictionary for our schools.

JOHN W. ADAMS,
JAMES H. FRENCH, } Principals of
C. C. MESERVE, } Public Schools.
M. DOUGLAS,

From PROFESSOR J. J. OWEN, *Free Academy, New York City.*

The book is replete with evidence that the author has addressed himself to his task with energy, industry, and eminent success. Nothing seems to have been omitted, nothing to have been left undone. It is a *thesaurus* which is not surpassed, if it is equalled, by anything of the kind in the English language.

PROFESSOR E. E. E. BRAGDON, of Falley Seminary, Fulton, N. Y., in a recent letter, says :

GENTLEMEN: I take great pleasure in saying that, after careful examination, I am convinced that Worcester's Comprehensive Dictionary is decidedly the best for all ordinary purposes of any work of the kind with which I am acquainted. So good an English School and Family Dictionary, I think, cannot be found. I hope it will soon become the School Dictionary of the land.

Yours, truly,

E. E. E. BRAGDON, M.A.

From MR. H. BANNISTER, *Cazenovia, N. Y.*

Cazenovia, April 4, 1853.

I hold in decided preference the pronunciation and orthography of Worcester's Dictionary to that of Webster, and shall continue to recommend the use of Worcester to the students of our institution.

Very truly yours,

H. BANNISTER.

The foregoing testimony shows conclusively that the Messrs. Merriam are not justified in publishing the statement that "*in the Empire State of New York Worcester is almost wholly unknown.*" Nor is the assertion true in reference to the knowledge of Worcester "*at the West.*" The following testimony of eminent educators will show that the scholars in that section of the country are not so ignorant upon the subject of Dictionaries as the Messrs. Merriam would have the public suppose them to be.

H. H. BARNEY, ESQ., formerly the distinguished principal of the Hughes High School, Cincinnati, and now the STATE SCHOOL COMMISSIONER OF OHIO, in a letter to the publishers, says:

GENTLEMEN: I regard Worcester's Elementary and Comprehensive Dictionaries as the best School Dictionaries extant, for the following reasons, namely: First, because they are the cheapest Dictionaries which contain full vocabularies of Greek, Latin, Scripture, and Geographical Proper Names, with their pronunciation. Second, because they exhibit the authorities respecting words of various, doubtful or disputed pronunciation, where the words are defined. Third, because, for manuals of this sort, they contain a very large number of words, especially numerous technical terms in the various arts and sciences, with definitions as comprehensive and exact as could be expected in works of this kind. The opinion has been formed from a ten years' experience in the use of said works, in an institution that afforded excellent opportunities for testing their peculiar advantages.

H. H. BARNEY.

Cleveland, January 10, 1852.

The undersigned concurs in the views expressed in the above note of Mr. H. H. Barney in relation to Worcester's Dictionaries.

GEORGE WILLEY,
Acting Manager of Public Schools.

Sandusky, Ohio, February 15, 1854.

MESSRS. JENKS, HICKLING & SWAN.

Long use has led me to respect the extent and accuracy of the definitions in Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, while my later experience induces me

to give the preference, unhesitatingly, to Mr. Worcester, as a standard for pronunciation and orthography. Both are used in our public schools for constant reference, and I should regard the withdrawal of either as a calamity. As a series for our pupils, we use Worcester's Elementary Dictionary in our Grammar Schools, and Worcester's Comprehensive Dictionary in our High School.

Very respectfully,

M. F. COWDERY,
Superintendent Public Schools, Sandusky, O.

Athens, Ohio, May 6, 1852.

MESSRS. JENKS, HICKLING & SWAN.

GENTLEMEN: I desire to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of Worcester's Universal and Critical Dictionary of the English Language; and the brief examination which I have since been able to give it fully confirms the favorable opinion which I had been led to form from its general reputation. I take pleasure in authorizing you to add my name to the list of those who "do not hesitate to pronounce it, in our judgment, the most comprehensive, accurate and useful Dictionary within our knowledge." It is undoubtedly the best standard which we have as to orthography and pronunciation.

Very respectfully yours, &c.,

AARON WILLIAMS, A.M.,
Professor of Languages in the Ohio University.

Massillon, January 3, 1852.

I have examined Worcester's Comprehensive Dictionary, and Worcester's Primary Dictionary, published by you, and am so well pleased with them that I shall immediately recommend their introduction into the school now under my charge. I think them the best practical Dictionaries now claiming public attention, and sincerely hope you will succeed in introducing them into the schools of our State.

THOMAS W. HARVEY,
Superintendent Massillon Union School.

Urbana Seminary, March 11, 1853.

Worcester's Dictionary has been the standard authority in the institutions which I have had the charge of for the past fifteen years; and from this experience I am satisfied that the author has met fully the demand in this department of learning.

MILO G. WILLIAMS.

The Messrs. Merriam publish a letter from HON. HORACE MANN, late Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Education, commendatory of Webster's Quarto Dictionary. Mr. Mann is now President of Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio. Read what he says of Worcester's Dictionaries as his standard authority for orthography and pronunciation.

For many years, in all my writing, speaking and teaching, I have endeavored to conform to the rules for orthography and pronunciation as contained in Worcester's Dictionary. I suppose them, with but very few exceptions, to represent the highest standard recognized by the best writers and speakers, in England and in this country. . . . I shall not fail to recommend every person to purchase a copy of this Dictionary who is able to do so.

HORACE MANN.

DR. AZEL P. LADD, the able and accomplished Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of Wisconsin, in his last report to the Legislature of that State, recommends Webster's Quarto Dictionary for "the school-room desk;" but he also recommends "*Worcester's, as a hand-book, for scholars.*"

From the Principal of the Union School, Kenosha, Wisconsin.

I am using Worcester's Dictionaries as my standard authority in the orthography and pronunciation of the English language.

D. F. DEWOLF.

TESTIMONY FROM MISSOURI.

From Mr. SPENCER SMITH, late Superintendent of the Public Schools in St. Louis, and Principal of an English and Classical High School for Girls.

St. Louis, November 29, 1852.

DEAR SIR: Of the many School Dictionaries which I have used in my school for several years past, I regard Worcester's as decidedly the best. I have found it uniting more of the requisites for such a Dictionary — correctness and comprehensiveness — than any similar work; and while I am in the constant habit of directing the scholar's attention to Dr. Webster's Quarto for the definition and use of words, Dr. Worcester's opinion on all matters concerning disputed pronunciation is considered a final decision.

And permit me to add, that in all his works for schools I have found Dr. Worcester more uniformly correct and more reliable authority than any author with which I am acquainted.

Yours, &c.,

SPENCER SMITH.

From Mr. A. LITTON, Superintendent of the St. Louis Public Schools.

St. Louis, November 2, 1852.

For several years I have been daily in the habit of consulting Worcester's Universal and Critical Dictionary of the English Language. I have always found it an invaluable aid, and know no work of the kind that in all respects possesses equal merit as a work of reference. I can heartily recommend it to all who wish to study, and to write and speak correctly, the English language.

Worcester's smaller Dictionary has been for the last ten years my traveling companion, and I know no Dictionary that is better adapted to meet the wants of young persons, or that can with so much advantage be placed upon the desk of every scholar in all schools and academies.

A. LITTON.

From Mr. J. D. LOW, Principal of St. Louis High School.

I have used Worcester's Comprehensive Dictionary for a number of years, and regard it as standard authority in orthography and pronunciation. It is an invaluable auxiliary in obtaining a correct knowledge of the English language, and should be placed in the hands of the pupils of all our schools. I place it by the side of Webster's Dictionary upon my desk, and would not be without it.

J. D. LOW.

From Mr. J. BLANCHARD, President of Knox College, Illinois.

Worcester's large Dictionary can hardly compete with Webster's in the definition of words, but it is a work of rare excellence; and by its clearer

and more obvious presentation to the eye of the pronunciation of the language, and especially by the richness and abundance of its appended matter, it is a more convenient work for daily use to scholars than any other.

J. BLANCHARD.

We could publish a volume of similar testimony from the most eminent teachers, not only "*in the Empire State of New York, and at the West,*" but in every section of the country. Read the following

TESTIMONY FROM PENNSYLVANIA.

Hon. Thomas H. Burrowes, editor of the *Pennsylvania School Journal*, and formerly Superintendent of Public Instruction in the State of Pennsylvania, says:

Some months ago, being applied to by several teachers to designate the best large defining and etymological Dictionary for the use of teachers, we unhesitatingly named, and still name, *Webster's Unabridged quarto work*. We have recently been asked, also, by teachers, to name a good Dictionary for pupils to have on their desks for reference, and feel as little hesitation in saying that *Worcester's Comprehensive Dictionary* is as good a one as can be purchased for this use and for the same money — perhaps the best — certainly the best we have examined. We are not in favor of 25 cent or 37½ cent Dictionaries for this purpose. If practicable, we should like to see Webster's or Worcester's largest books in the ownership and use of each advanced pupil; but this is, yet, out of the question. The next best thing that can be done is to get the next largest and cheapest book to be had; and there will be no mistake in telling every pupil, who wants or ought to have a good Dictionary of the English language, to buy Worcester's Comprehensive Dictionary.

TESTIMONY FROM MARYLAND.

Office of the Commissioners of Public Schools, April 16, 1853.

At a meeting of the Board of Public School Commissioners of the city of Baltimore, held March 8th, 1853, Worcester's Comprehensive Dictionary was introduced into the schools.

Respectfully yours,

J. W. TILYARD,
Sec. Comm's Public Schools.

Office of the Commissioners of Public Schools, May 17, 1853.

At a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Public Schools for the city of Baltimore held this day, Worcester's Universal and Critical Dictionary was introduced into all the schools for the use of the teachers.

Very respectfully and truly yours,

J. W. TILYARD,
Sec. Comm's Public Schools.

TESTIMONY FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

Hon. C. H. Wiley, Superintendent of Public Instruction in the State of North Carolina, in his recommendation of school books for that State, thus alludes to the subject of Dictionaries:

Every scholar should be in possession of a Dictionary as soon as he learns to read; and when teachers exercise their pupils in spelling, from memory, they should give out the words from a work of this sort, and give also the definition.

As best suited to the purposes of our primary schools, I recommend, without hesitation, WORCESTER'S COMPREHENSIVE DICTIONARY. And I earnestly hope that all teachers, at least, will supply themselves with copies.

C. H. WILEY.

TESTIMONY FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

From PROFESSOR FRANCIS LIEBER, LL.D., *of South Carolina College.*

My acquaintance with Dr. Worcester's Universal and Critical Dictionary is thorough, and I consider it the best of all American Dictionaries of the English language. I am not acquainted with the school editions of this Dictionary, but, knowing well the indefatigable industry and long-tryed judgment of the author, I make no doubt but that the value of these editions is proportionate to that of the larger work, and that they deserve the recommendations which many scholars have given them.

FRANCIS LIEBER.

TESTIMONY FROM ALABAMA.

From PROFESSOR WILSON G. RICHARDSON, *of the University of Alabama.*

Whilst in charge of the department of criticism in the University of Alabama, I inflexibly ruled out all Websterian innovations, by ordering, for the use of the students, Dr. Worcester's excellent work, and acknowledging no other standard in orthography and orthoëpy. This learned and laborious investigator has here presented us the language, — not such as certain well-meaning theorists *would have it*, but such as it *actually is*; and this I conceive to be the only legitimate office of the lexicographer. His analysis of sound is much more simple and complete than even Walker's, the weight of whose authority is ever brought to bear upon the decision of delicate points.

WILSON G. RICHARDSON.

TESTIMONY FROM NEW ORLEANS.

The undersigned, Committee on Supplies for the Public Schools of the Fourth District, New Orleans, highly approve of the series of Dictionaries compiled by Dr. J. E. Worcester, and published by Jenks, Hickling & Swan, of Boston. Pursuant to a resolution of the School Board, of which we are a committee, we have through our bookseller and stationer — Mr. William Fleming — ordered for our two thousand pupils each a copy of one of the three smaller Dictionaries of the series, according to the degree of the advancement of the pupil. We have also furnished each of our forty teachers with a copy of the octavo Dictionary of Worcester, *which we have adopted as the standard on all points on which reference is made to a Dictionary.* This latter work contains the most copious vocabulary ever published, — full to repletion. It settles the pronunciation of a large class of words, incorrectly designated in all preceding lexicons. It represents good taste and good usage in orthography, in opposition to the scheming innovations and perversions of Noah Webster, with whom every dead, fossilized word of antiquity was caught at as a pretext for changing the spelling of the words of his mother tongue.

Worcester's system of notation, and his scheme of the vowel sounds, are more accurate and precise than any that we have examined, and must infallibly lead to a correct and polite pronunciation.

The catalogue of words of unsettled orthography is extremely valuable for

reference. When we add to this the rules and vocabularies for the pronunciation of the Greek and Latin proper names, the Scripture proper names, and of Geographical names (excellences which belong to all four of the Dictionaries of the series), we have a book which should supersede all other Octavo Dictionaries ever published.

The compiler has rendered a real service to the cause of education; and we hope that one so thoroughly competent to the task will ere long favor the world with a massive Quarto, which will supersede the work of Webster.

MOSES MORTON DOULER,
FREDERICK KALTEYER.

Fourth District of New Orleans, August 3, 1853.

The reader's attention is now called to the following additional testimony, in favor of the Universal and Critical Dictionary, from some of the most eminent scholars in the country:

WORCESTER'S UNIVERSAL AND CRITICAL DICTIONARY OF
THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

The execution of this Dictionary fully answers to its title.

The VOCABULARY is probably more comprehensive than that of all preceding English Dictionaries united.

Constant reference is made to AUTHORITIES with respect to words newly introduced, and care is taken to note such as are technical, foreign, obsolete, provincial, or vulgar.

The DEFINITIONS are clear and exact, and those pertaining to technical and scientific terms are specially valuable to the general reader.

The author has evidently bestowed great labor on PRONUNCIATION. His system of notation, which is easily understood, and founded on a more complete analysis of the vowel sounds than we have elsewhere met with, together with his plan of exhibiting all the best English authorities in relation to words differently pronounced by different orthoëpists, gives to this work important advantages as a Pronouncing Dictionary.

In ORTHOGRAPHY he has made no arbitrary changes, but, where usage is various and fluctuating, he has aimed to be consistent, and to reduce to the same rules words of similar formation.

The insertion of GRAMMATICAL FORMS AND INFLECTIONS OF WORDS to a much greater extent than they are given in other English Dictionaries, and the short critical notes on the orthography, the pronunciation, the grammatical form and construction, and the peculiar technical, local, and American uses of words interspersed through the volume, gives to this work much additional value.

The copious VOCABULARY OF MODERN GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES, with their pronunciation, and a greatly enlarged and improved edition of Walker's Key to the Pronunciation of Classical and Scripture Proper Names, are important appendages to the Dictionary.

A year has passed since this Dictionary was published; and its already extensive use, both among cultivated English readers and men of wide learning, affords good testimony of its merits. We confidently recommend it as containing an ample and careful view of the present state of our language.

JARED SPARKS, LL.D.

McLean Professor of An. and Mod. History, Harvard University.

JOHN McLEAN, LL.D.

Justice U. S. Supreme Court, Ohio.

MOSES STUART, D.D.

Professor of Sacred Literature, Theol. Seminary, Andover, Mass.

EDWARDS A. PARK, D.D.

Abbott Prof. of Christ. Theology, Theol. Seminary, Andover, Mass.

LEONARD WOODS, JR., D.D.

President of Bowdoin College, Me.

N. LORD, D.D.

President of Dartmouth College, N. H.

EDWARD HITCHCOCK, D.D., LL.D.

President of Amherst College, Mass.

MARK HOPKINS, D.D.

President of Williams College, Mass.

EDWARD T. CHANNING, LL.D.

Boylston Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory, Harvard University.

HENRY W. LONGFELLOW, A.M.

Professor of Belles Lettres, Harvard University.

ALONZO POTTER, D.D., LL.D.

Bishop of Pennsylvania.

SIDNEY WILLARD, A.M.

Late Professor of Hebrew, &c., Harvard University.

BENJ. HALE, D.D.

President of Geneva College, N. Y.

ROBLEY DUNGLISON, M.D.

Professor in Jefferson Med. College, Philadelphia.

FRANCIS BOWEN, A.M.

Editor of the North American Review.

CHARLES FOLSOM, A.M.

Librarian of the Boston Athenæum.

HECTOR HUMPHREY, D.D.

President of St. John's College, Md.

DAVID L. SWAIN, LL.D.

President of University of North Carolina.

PHILLIP LINDSLEY, D.D.

President of the University of Nashville, Tenn.

N. LAWRENCE LINDSLEY, A.M.

Professor of An. Lan. and Literature, Cumberland University, Tenn.

I concur fully in the leading portions of the above recommendation — not having had leisure to examine all the particulars referred to.

LEVI WOODBURY, LL.D.

Justice U. S. Supreme Court, Mass.

From a general and frequent reference to this Dictionary, in constant use. I fully concur in the general merits of the work, and regard it as a very valuable aid to science.

THEO. FRELINGHUYSEN, LL.D.

Chancellor of the University of New York.

I have used "Worcester's Universal and Critical Dictionary of the English Language," in preference to any other, for constant reference.

JOHN WHEELER, D.D.

President of University of Vermont.

From HON. EDWARD EVERETT, *Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.*

I am inclined to regard your Dictionary, from the cursory examination I have been able to make of it, and my knowledge of your lexicographical skill, as the best Dictionary — I mean the most useful — of our language.

From the REV. WILLIAM JENKS, D.D., Editor of the Comprehensive Commentary, &c.

The subscriber unites cordially with those gentlemen who have recommended Worcester's Dictionary as affording the best and safest exhibition of the English language, in its most accredited and established use. It is free from harsh innovations, conservative in its general character, trustworthy in its derivations; and he hopes it may be even more extensively brought into early and continual use in seminaries of education and in public offices, that it may tend to check the irregularities that are deforming the beauty of expression which it has cost so much effort to establish. He regards it as, on the whole, deserving to be esteemed a standard.

Boston, January 26, 1853.

WILLIAM JENKS.

From HON. CHARLES SUMNER, United States Senate.

The Universal Dictionary I have used constantly, and almost daily, since its publication. I have no hesitation in calling it the best practical Dictionary of the English language.

January 24, 1851.

CHARLES SUMNER.

From REV. EDWARD BEECHER, D.D., Boston.

Since I received it, I have regularly consulted it, and always with increasing satisfaction. For convenience, accuracy, and copiousness, I have found it decidedly superior to any work of the kind which I have used.

From HON. JOHN McLEAN, of Cincinnati.

Your small Dictionary, published in 1837, has been my daily companion for more than nine years. I congratulate you on the completion of this great work. Its production required high and exact learning, and much patient labor; but it will introduce your name to every library in our country, and place it by the side of the distinguished lexicographers who have preceded you.

From CHARLES NORTHEND, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Danvers, Mass.

In respect to orthography and pronunciation I consider your work preferable to any other, and the definitions are all that could be desired.

From EDWARD HITCHCOCK, D.D., President Amherst College.

I am free to say that, in scientific terms (to which my attention was confined), it is the most complete of any Dictionary I have ever met; and, therefore, it will replace all others on my study table.

From C. B. HADDOCK, Professor of Rhetoric, Dartmouth College.

It supplies all the defects of preceding works in pronunciation which have occurred to me.

From J. BOUVIER, Author of Law Dictionary.

Since I have had it I have constantly referred to it; and although my library is very well supplied with Dictionaries, I have frequently been indebted to yours for what I have in vain sought in others.

From FRANCIS WAYLAND, D.D., President Brown University.

On looking over the various departments of your work, I am astonished at the vast amount of information respecting our language which you have compressed within so small a space. Your introductory articles seem to me remarkably complete and compendious. The Dictionary is very full, and at the same time you have, as far as I am able to judge, marked the words of obsolete or doubtful use, with accurate discrimination. I congratulate you on the completion of a work which will prove a most important aid to the

student of the English language, and I tender to you my best wishes for its success. I take the liberty to add, that Professor Gamwell, of the Chair of English Literature and Rhetoric, entertains the same views as myself of the value of your work.

From JOHN G. PALFREY, D.D., LL.D.

What little examination I have yet been able to give to it confirms what I hear from the best sources, that it is destined to supersede all other works of the kind, and supply the want in its important department for an indefinite time to come.

From MR. A. W. SPRAGUE, Principal High School, Eastport, Me.

As an orthographer and orthoëpist, Worcester, in my opinion, stands unrivalled, and in words of doubtful orthography and pronunciation I know of no safer authority.

From the HON. S. G. GOODRICH, Author of Peter Parley's Works.

The best popular standard of pronunciation is Worcester's new Universal and Critical Dictionary.

From PROFESSOR M. B. ANDERSON, of Waterville College, Me.

The result of a *thorough examination* of Worcester's Dictionary has been to produce in my mind the decided conviction, that for fulness of vocabulary, accuracy in orthography, pronunciation, and definition, and for its criticisms upon unauthorized words, it is superior to any Dictionary of the English language with which I am acquainted. I have recommended the work to our students as a standard for reference.

From MR. WILLIAM RUSSELL, Elocutionist, formerly Editor of the American Journal of Education, and Author of a Series of Reading Books.

You are aware that I have, in my compilations on elocution, and in my instructions on that subject, uniformly referred to the previous Dictionaries of Mr. Worcester as the most accurate and satisfactory sources of information in their department. The new Dictionary I have examined closely, and am daily using it as a standard for reference; and it seems to me the most valuable work of the kind ever produced in this country. In my communications with teachers, I have been accustomed, for many years, to hear an earnest wish expressed for an American Dictionary, free from the peculiarities of Webster and the obsolete extremes of Walker. Such a work Mr. Worcester seems to have furnished, and it bids fair to be generally adopted as a standard in instruction.

From MR. W. H. WELLS, Principal of Putnam Free School, Newburyport, Mass., and Author of a popular Grammar of the English Language.

As a standard of orthography and pronunciation, the compilation of Mr. Worcester is far in advance of all other works of its class. His exhibition of the elementary sounds of the language surpasses even the masterly analysis of Smart. The definitions are copious and accurate, and every portion of the work affords evidence of the most careful and exact discrimination, and the profoundest research.

The attention of practical teachers is particularly invited to the following recommendation of THE COMPREHENSIVE PRONOUNCING AND EXPLANATORY DICTIONARY:

This Dictionary exhibits, in its different parts, ample evidence of inquiry, careful comparison, and sound judgment. It combines, in a very condensed yet intelligible form, a greater quantity of valuable matter than any other

similar work ; and as a Pronouncing Dictionary it possesses decided advantages over all others, by its superior system of notation, and by its exhibition of all the principal authorities respecting words of doubtful and various pronunciation. We do not hesitate to pronounce it, in our judgment, *the most comprehensive, accurate, and useful compendium within our knowledge.*

JOSEPH STORY, LL.D.

Professor Law, Cambridge, Mass.

SIDNEY WILLARD, A.M.

Professor Hebrew, Latin, &c., Cambridge, Mass.

E. T. CHANNING, A.M.

Professor Rhetoric and Oratory, Cambridge, Mass.

JOHN PICKERING, LL.D. Boston.

WM. ALLEN, D.D.

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Professor Greek and Latin, Columbian College, N. Y.

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President University of Georgia.

PHILIP LINDSLEY, D.D.

President Nashville University, Tenn.

EDWARD BEECHER, A.M.

President Illinois College.

DAVID PRENTICE, LL.D.

Professor of Languages, Geneva College, N. Y.

The foregoing testimony is sufficient to show that the assertions of the Messrs. Merriam, in relation to the limited circulation of Worcester's Dictionaries, are as untrue as their statements in relation to the character of Dr. Worcester. We therefore take leave of the subject by expressing the hope that they will at once correct these false statements, and as honorable men will see to it that the correction or retraction is as widely circulated as have been their unjust and injurious aspersions ; and that in future, whenever these gentlemen have occasion to speak of Dr. Worcester or his Dictionaries, they will remember the golden rule, "to do unto others as they would that others should do unto them."

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Editor "American Journal of Education" (First Series), Instructor in Elocution at Abbot Female Academy, Phillips Academy, &c. &c.

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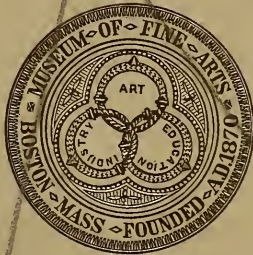
TRUSTEES

OF THE

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1877.



BOSTON:
ALFRED MUDGE AND SON, PRINTERS,
34 SCHOOL STREET.
1878.

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REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

BOSTON, Jan. 17, 1878.

THE Executive Committee presents the following report for the year 1877: —

The Museum has been open every day throughout the year except in August, when it was closed during the whole month, in order to make some needed alterations, particularly in the Picture Gallery. It will probably be necessary to close the Museum for a few days every year for cleaning and other purposes.

By direction of the Trustees, the Museum was opened to the public on Sunday afternoons from one to five, without charge, after the 1st of March. This large addition to the opportunities of visiting the collections has been freely used, and never abused. The greater part of the many thousand persons who have gone there on Sundays would have had no leisure to do so on any weekday, and to these it has been a new means of enjoyment and instruction. It was the purpose of the Trustees, in making this change, as it was assuredly the wish of the founders of the Museum, that full opportunity of profiting by its collections should be given to all our fellow-citizens. The enlarged facilities for free admission have not been followed by any diminution of the paying visitors, but on the contrary by a large increase in their number.

Free access to the collections has been given to students in the department of architecture at the Institute of Technology, and to pupils of the Free School of Design at the Lowell Institute.

In April the Museum was opened on three successive evenings to those who had subscribed to its funds or made gifts to its collections. On four evenings since then the building has been used by permission of the committee for purposes of compliment or enter-

tainment to strangers visiting the city ; but the general use of the Museum in the evening is prevented by the cost of lighting and attendance.

The ordinary expenses in the department of the Executive Committee have been increased by the employment of a clerk for the curator at a salary of \$500, and by the cost of opening on Sundays, estimated at \$500 per annum.

During the summer two rooms on the north side of the basement in the uncompleted wing were finished, and are now used by the school of drawing. The school will pay annually the interest on the cost of this addition, made wholly for the better accommodation of its instructors and pupils. In connection with, and partly in consequence of this addition, some small changes have been made in the basement, chiefly with a view to more perfect protection against any possible risk from fire. The ventilation of the Museum, especially of the Picture Gallery, has been greatly improved.

The receipts at the Museum have been as follows :—

For single admissions	\$3,753 25
“ season tickets	16 00
“ evening receptions	110 00
	<hr/>
Total for admissions	\$3,879 25
From sale of catalogues	1,896 85
	<hr/>
Gross receipts	\$5,776 10
Less cost of catalogues	1,222 45
	<hr/>
Net receipts	\$4,553 65
	<hr/> <hr/>

The number of visitors at the Museum has been as follows :—

Paid admissions	15,013
Admissions in the evening	2,418
Free admissions	141,015
	<hr/>
Whole number of visitors	158,446
Average number on Saturdays	1,601
“ “ “ Sundays	1,429
“ “ of paying visitors on other days	63

The crying want of the Museum is want of space. How this affects the exhibition of the collections and precludes their further growth, it is the province of the Committee on the Museum to state. But besides this the building is not large enough for the visitors. On many of the free days the crowd has been uncomfortably great, and it has been difficult to approach near enough to see whatever attracted any particular interest. The committee hope that the trustees will take measures to make known this need to the public.

For the Committee,
MARTIN BRIMMER.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE MUSEUM.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN:—

In presenting our report for the past year, we are happy to be able to congratulate you on the flourishing condition of the Museum, which, as its collections increase and its sphere of usefulness widens, grows constantly in public favor. It has been visited during the past year by 158,446 persons, and is generally recognized as a living, active force in the community.

As the attendance on paying days has increased, and that on free days has maintained itself at about the same high rate as before, we may take it for granted that many of the visitors have entered its doors not only once, but several times during the year, and may conclude that they were led to do so by some higher motive than the satisfaction of an idle curiosity. This, in many cases, would account for a single visit, but not for repeated visits, which prove that those who make them are intelligently interested, being anxious not only to see, but to understand the works of art which have been gathered together for their instruction as well as for their enjoyment.

Nowhere has the wisdom of giving works of art an educational bearing been more completely shown than in our Museum since the establishment of the Drawing School, whose busy, earnest life permeates the whole building, gives animation to its halls, and convinces those who have labored to make it promote the artistic growth of this commonwealth, that they have not labored in vain. Without the Drawing School, the Museum was like a body without a soul; with it, it is alive. The objects of beauty in its collections attract the students, and even when they are not directly occupied in copying them, give them new ideas of form, color, and design. Casts, stuffs, pictures, engravings, are

constantly utilized, and a never-ceasing influence for good goes out from them, to charm, to elevate, to instruct, and to delight those who are brought in contact with them, day after day, and week after week. Thanks to the present advantages for study offered at the Museum, the number of absentees among our artists has diminished. Formerly it was out of the question for any one who wished to study art seriously to remain in Boston, if he could afford to cross the Atlantic. A few determined spirits frequented the spasmodic Life School opened in the cellar of the Art Club, and here and there isolated efforts showed the need of more ample care for artistic needs, but none of an adequate character was taken until the Museum and the Drawing School joined hands, and made this city as good a place of residence for the art student as any of the cities of Europe, excepting the great capitals.

Although, so far as our resources will allow, we are free to build, to buy, and to legislate as we please (and these blessings may be properly recognized), there are certain material obstacles which impede our growth, obstacles which will, we trust, be gradually removed. The pressing need of more spacious accommodation for our ever-growing collections is upon us, and until we find generous friends to give us the means to build the new wing, whose halls, were they ready to-morrow, would be instantly utilized, we must continue to crowd the existing rooms beyond their capacity, or leave many valuable objects, now in our possession, unexhibited. Among these the great cast of the portico of the Caryatides, presented by the late Mr. George Dorr, is the most important. It will eventually be placed at the end of a hall corresponding to the Sculpture Gallery, with casts of the finest examples of antique, mediæval, and Renaissance capitals, columns, friezes, etc., as the chief ornament of an architectural collection, the like of which has not yet been seen in this country.

It is desirable to keep the public informed of this and other useful projects which stand in abeyance for want of funds to carry them out, with the hope that some friend of culture may assist us to do so, either by present, gift, or testamentary bequest. The frequent donation of good works of art to our collections gives cause for gratitude; but it is to be remembered that as they are

thus made richer, our available space for their proper exhibition diminishes.

The list of donations during the past year herewith presented includes many valuable items, but no mention could be made in it of the casts from the marbles found at Olympia, for which we are indebted to the Athenæum. Our gratitude to that institution, which has from the first been a potent helper to the Museum, is not altogether prompted by "a lively sense of favors to come," but we may acknowledge that it is in a degree prospective by expressing the hope that as the earth yields up other treasures from the site of the great Temple of Jupiter, they may, by the same means and in the same form, find their way to the Museum.

On behalf of the Committee,

CHARLES C. PERKINS, *Chairman.*

JANUARY 17, 1878.

The Trustees report that for the year ending Dec. 31, 1877, —

The Receipts have been: —

Subscription paid	\$2 00
Income from Gray Fund	1,430 31
Sales of Catalogues	1,896 85
Receipts from admissions	3,879 25
Income from investments	3,500 00
On Montpensier guaranty account	9,158 00
Money borrowed	15,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$34,866 41

The Expenditures have been: —

Balance due Treasurer on last account	\$2,524 40
Building account	10,198 49
Fixtures and Furniture	2,450 60
Works of Art	792 87
From Gray Fund income, for purchase of engravings, etc.	1,042 73
General expenses	16,330 55

The larger part of this account is chargeable to expenses incurred in the original placing and mounting of the collections.

Among other expenses were —

Printing Catalogues	\$1,222 45
Pay of attendants	3,569 98
Salaries	2,000 00
Heating and Lighting	771 23
Interest paid	363 60
Cash on hand Dec. 31	1,163 17
	<hr/>
	\$34,866 41

Dr. H. P. KIDDER, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS. *Cr.*

Building Account	\$257,745 48	Subscription Account	\$261,477 96
Fixtures and Furniture	15,104 18	Donations and Legacies	9,356 85
Works of Art	12,421 06	Profit and Loss	40,730 65
Montpensier Account	705 70	Everett Fund	7,500 00
General Investments	40,156 25	Everett Fund Income	490 00
Investment, Everett Fund	7,500 00	Gray Fund Income	90 38
Balance in Globe National Bank	1,163 17	Curator's Book Account	150 00
	—	Loan Account	15,000 00
			—
	\$334,795 84		\$334,795 84

E. & O. E.

H. P. KIDDER,

Treasurer.

BOSTON, Jan. 11, 1878.

DONATIONS IN 1877.

FROM A FORMER CITIZEN OF BOSTON, through Mr. Frank Hill Smith, articles purchased at the exhibition at Philadelphia, 1876. Electroplate, by Elkington & Co. — Two suits of armor; two trophies of arms, fourteen pieces each. Japanese art. — Cloisonné enamelled garden lamp; bronze vase inlaid with gold and silver; a pair porcelain vases. From the Tunis department. — Two swords, Damascus; Persian helmet, shield, two arm-pieces (*repoussé* work); enamelled poniard, Persian; two axes and mace inlaid; pair pistols, stock inlaid; large Persian plate, brass, inlaid silver; pair large Persian vases, open brass work; pair small Persian vases, brass incised; pair Persian candlesticks, inlaid with gold; brass drum, Persian.

STEPHEN SALISBURY, Worcester, Mass.: Busts in plaster, of Washington and Lafayette.

JOHN E. ALLSTON, Brooklyn, New York: a bequest, Portrait of Washington Allston. By Walker, painted in London about 1807.

B. W. CROWNINSHIELD: Sixty-nine specimens Japanese printed cottons.

CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART, Washington D. C., Wm. MacLeod, curator: Twenty-five photographs of objects in the Museum.

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, New York: Thirty-six photographs of objects in the Cesnola collection.

MRS. ANDREW C. WHEELWRIGHT: Cast of the head of "The Slave or Dying Youth," by Michelangelo.

MRS. G. W. WALES: Cup and saucer, French; Pina handkerchief, from Manila.

NATHL. THAYER: Landscape; artist unknown.

By contribution through MESSRS. J. W. PAIGE AND H. WILD: Oil painting. By Diaz. "Study in a Forest."

Estate of DR. W. W. MORLAND: Three plaster busts; seven pieces of arms; ram's head; embroidery; chatelaine of silver.

MRS. E. CHENEY: Painting. By David. "Hector at the Car of Achilles."

CHAS. G. LORING: Antique gong of bronze inlaid with gold, Japanese; helmet of iron inlaid with gold and silver, Japanese.

GEO. W. WALES: Terra-cotta bust of Mme. de Lamballe (?), by Pajou, 1775.

MRS. GARDNER BREWER AND MISS BREWER: Sixty pieces of pottery of the mound-builders, excavated at Diehlstaad, Missouri.

THOS. H. CHANDLER: Portrait of Thos. Dowse, engraved by J. Andrews.

REV. ROBERT FARQUHARSON: Cinerary urn, found near Langton Dorset, England.

JOHN H. STURGIS: Terra-cotta profile head of a Roman soldier, found near the temple of Vesta, Tivoli.

FRANCIS AMORY: Nineteen articles in terra-cotta from recent excavations in Greece; vases, masks, statuettes, etc.

CONTRIBUTION OF SEVERAL PERSONS: Oil painting by Couture; a study for "The Volunteers of 1792."

FRANCIS C. FOSTER: Porcelain ewer, Dresden.

S. D. WARREN: Oil painting by Jean François Millet. "Bergère Assise."

JAMES ROBERTSON & SONS: Nineteen specimens of pottery from the Chelsea Pottery, Chelsea, Mass.; one decorated by JOHN G. LOW, and one carved in the clay by G. W. FENETY.

MARTIN BRIMMER: Block from the porcelain tower of Nankin, white elephant in relief; twenty-two pieces Oriental stuffs, Persian wall hangings, rugs, etc., of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

MISS H. L. BROWN: Bronze statuette, found at Pompeii.

MRS. WM. A. TAPPAN: A portfolio of twenty etchings by Daubigny.

DONATIONS TO LIBRARY IN 1877.

JOHN H. STURGIS: Reports of the Science and Art Department of the Committee of Council on Education. English Parliamentary Reports. Seventeen vols.

ERASTUS BRAINERD: Alex. Gilchrist, — "The Life of Wm. Blake." Two vols. W. S. Baker, — "American Engravers and their Works." P. G. Hamerton, — "The Etcher's Handbook." Lebrun, — "Manuel du Mouleur." M. Boitard, — "Manuel de l'Imprimeur en taille douce."

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR: Report of the Commissioner of Education for 1875.

FREDERICK W. PUTNAM, Curator: Ten Annual Reports of the Peabody Museum of American Archæology and Ethnology of Harvard University. 1868-1876.

JUSTIN WINSOR, Librarian: Bulletins Boston Public Library, Nos. 39, 40, 41, 42, and Twenty-fifth Annual Report.

THE PENNSYLVANIA MUSEUM AND SCHOOL OF INDUSTRIAL ART: Three catalogues of articles exhibited.

S. R. KÖHLER: "Memoir of Joseph Andrews, Engraver." Dr. Von Bezold, — "The Theory of Color," translated from the German, by S. R. Köhler.

ERASTUS BRAINERD: Ernest Edwards, — "The Heliotype Process."

FRANCIS AMORY: J. B. Waring, — "Masterpieces of Industrial Art and Sculpture, at the International Exhibition of 1862." Three vols., colored illustrations.

MRS. WILLIAM APPLETON: The Boydell edition of Shakespeare. Ten vols.

CHAS. C. PERKINS: C. C. Perkins, — "Raphael and Michelangelo: A Critical and Biographical Essay."

W. H. DENNETT: Nine Reports of the Council of the Art Union of London. 1868-1877.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LOAN EXHIBITION

FOR THE YEAR 1877.

[This list does not include a large number of articles on exhibition, reported in previous years.]

THE ATHENÆUM :—

Thirty-six casts from sculptures recently discovered at Olympia.

HENRY ADAMS :—

Two Siculo-Græco vases.

MRS. HENRY ADAMS :—

One piece Venetian lace; one piece embroidery; one piece Mexican pottery.

LOWELL D. ALLEN, Waltham, Mass. :—

Four pieces Japanese embroidery; three pieces of antique furniture; five pieces painted leather; thirteen scarabæi and gems; twelve pieces pottery; one Persian box; thirty pieces armor; nineteen arrows.

SAMUEL K. BAYLEY, Milton, Mass. :—

Five pieces Cashmere *papier maché*; two talc statuettes; three pieces silver; two pieces carved bamboo; twenty-one pieces carved ivory; three pieces lacquer; one piece goldstone and jade; one carved buffalo's horn; two pieces Osaka straw-work; two carved nuts.

W. H. MACOMBER, Shanghai, China :—

Three pieces Japanese bronze, inlaid with gold and silver.

DR. W. S. BIGELOW :—

Pair rosadon vases; twenty-nine pieces of Græco-Italian and Asiatic pottery.

MRS. BLAKE :—

Paintings by Schidone and Vander Meulen.

MARTIN BRIMMER :—

Paintings by W. M. Hunt, J. F. Millet, E. Vedder, Agnolo di Donnino, and J. Appleton Brown.

DR. BUCKMINSTER BROWN :—

Two portraits by Copley.

MISS C. C. BROWN :—

Sibyl, Italian School, and portrait by Rigaud.

MRS. T. G. CARY, Cambridge, Mass. :—

Cup of gold from California with stand of lapis lazuli, porphyry, gold and silver quartz; one piece Japanese ivory carving; one Japanese dress.

MRS. E. D. CHENEY :—

The "Loggie di Rafaele." Painting by Piazzetta, and crayon portrait by S. W. Cheney.

MRS. CLEVELAND, Jamaica Plain, Mass. :—

Painting by Fra Bartolomeo.

A. L. COOLIDGE :—

Marble statue.

MISS EMMA G. CUMMINGS, Cambridge, Mass. :—

Byzantine box.

H. G. CURTIS :—

One piece porcelain.

MRS. DAMOREAU :—

Three pieces lace; one piece embroidery.

EDWARD DEACON :—

Paintings by Decaisne and Morganstern.

HARLESTON DEACON :—

Sixteen pieces porcelain; five pieces silver; two pieces arms; Scandinavian drinking-horn; two pieces embroidery; one oil painting by Wild.

G. V. FOX. :—

Portfolio, Russia leather with silver mountings; three silver and one gold medal from Russia.

A. D. WELD FRENCH :—

Two antique bas-reliefs, Chinese; two pieces Japanese porcelain; three paintings on porcelain, Chinese.

C. W. GALLOUPE :—

Paintings by Jan Steen, Van Ostade; one Italian school.

W. ALLAN GAY :—

Five pieces Japanese bronze; one piece cloisonné; six pieces porcelain; one oil painting.

GEO. A. GODDARD :—

One piece antique Japanese bronze; two pieces porcelain

JAS. J. H. GREGORY, Marblehead, Mass. :—

Painting by Norton.

MISS GREENOUGH :—

Painting by Guido.

MRS. J. N. GREW :—

Jade bowl.

DR. GEO. R. HALL, Bristol, R. I. :—

Three pieces bronze; twenty pieces porcelain; one piece lacquer.

E. W. HOOPER :—

Forty-seven pieces Peruvian mummy cloth.

NATHANIEL HOOPER :—

Painting by Gustave Doré.

MRS. S. HOOPER :—

Paintings by Allston, Corot, Millet.

MISS ALICE S. HOOPER :—

Paintings by Turner, La Farge, Allston, Corot, Millet, and a screen by Miss E. B. Green.

MISS MARION HOVEY :—

Miniature by Isabey.

CHAS. T. HOW :—

Ten Apostle spoons, silver.

MRS. S. G. HOWE :—

Painting by Velasquez.

RICHARD M. HUNT, New York :—

Iron grille.

MRS. P. T. JACKSON :—

One box cinnabar lacquer.

CHARLES H. JOY :—

Paintings by Hamon and H. Leroux; two pieces antique furniture; two pieces brass; one piece porcelain; one suit armor.

H. P. KIDDER :—

Painting by F. Voltz; one piece pottery.

MRS. CHARLES C. LITTLE :—

Pair vases, Copenhagen.

MISS MARY G. LORING :—

Ten pieces porcelain.

FRANK W. LORING :—

Painting by Lafarge; one piece cloisonné enamel.

CHARLES G. LORING :—

One piece lacquer.

MRS. CHARLES G. LORING :—

One Egyptian bracelet, silver.

MISS LOWELL :—

Painting by Troyon.

MRS. H. E. MAYNARD :—

Paintings by Troyon, Schreyer, Brion, Merle, Ruiperez.

MRS. B. S. MOULTON :—

Portrait by Ames.

J. W. PAIGE :—

Paintings by Diaz, Fromentin, and Corot; four pieces antique furniture; twenty-three pieces of porcelain; one piece engraved glass; one brass plate from Damascus; two pewter plates, Swiss; Gothic cross, silver; one piece jade; eight pieces embroidery; five miniatures; four pieces carved wood; four pieces painted leather; one piece iron work.

OLIVER W. PEABODY :—

Stork's egg lacquered; ivory tray lacquered.

MRS. Z. FAY PIERCE, Cambridge, Mass. :—

Ring, enamel and pearls.

CHAS. C. PERKINS :—

Drawings by Overbeck, Camia, L. Travalloni, Nicholas Poussin, Parmigianino, Amici, Ary Schæffer, Decamps, Michelangelo, and Retszch.

MISS E. PERKINS :—

Paintings by Orcagna, Velasquez, and a water-color by Wheelwright.

JOHN C. PHILLIPS :—

Paintings by Boughton, Cèsar de Cock, Daubigny, Schreyer, Fromentin.

THE PHILLIPS FAMILY, North Andover, Mass. :—

Portrait of Washington. By Stuart.

L. PRANG & Co. :—

Lacquer box of Japanese games.

- PAUL POLUBINSKI : —
 Painting ascribed to Correggio.
- EDWARD T. POTTER, Newport, R. I. : —
 Painting by Guido.
- MISS E. S. QUINCY, Quincy, Mass. : —
 Two portraits by Stuart and one by Copley.
- MRS. W. B. ROGERS : —
 Portrait by Greuze.
- S H. RUSSELL : —
 Paintings by Witherington, Largillière, G. Innes, Bradford.
- MRS. RUSSELL : —
 Paintings by Sully and Albano.
- C. F. SANDERSON : —
 Pair Japanese bronze vases.
- JAS. O. SARGENT : —
 Painting by Van Dyke and copy of Greuze.
- H. SAYLES : —
 Painting by Courbet.
- CHAS. T. SAVAGE, Harvard, Mass. : —
 Portrait by Copley.
- J. R. SAVAGE, Philadelphia, Pa. : —
 Portrait by Copley.
- QUINCY A. SHAW : —
 Paintings by Brion and Andrea del Sarto.
- EDWARD SILSBY : —
 Pair vases, enamel on porcelain; Japanese.
- FREDERICK SKINNER : —
 Eight pieces arms and armor.
- MISS S. E. SMITH, Salem, Mass. : —
 Eight pieces engraved glass.
- THE MISSES STEARNS : —
 One box carved wood; one box carved ivory; one piece stained glass;
 Egyptian necklace.
- JOHN H. STORER : —
 Four hundred and forty-three medals, mostly bronze.
- RICHARD SULLIVAN : —
 Paintings by Ruysdael, Guercino, Allston, and Trumbull, and two others.
- MRS. RICHARD SULLIVAN : —
 Eight Kabyle ornaments, silver; one Algerine head-dress, silver; one pair
 scissors, Damascus steel inlaid with gold.
- T. D. TOWNSEND : —
 Pastel portrait by Sir T. Lawrence, 1783.
- W. R. TUCKER, Natick, Mass. : —
 Japanese sketch book; bronze incense-burner inlaid with silver.
- HERBERT WADSWORTH : —
 Painting by Julien Dupré.
- GEO. W. WALES : —
 One piece cloisonné enamel; thirty-five pieces porcelain; nine pieces

Missouri mound-builders' pottery; paintings by D. Calvart and G. Biliverti.

MRS. J. M. WARREN:—

Twenty paintings by Guido, Pierino del Vaga, Vedder, Colman, D'Aubrey, Ochtervelt, Ruysdael, Teniers, Paul Bril, Both, Salmon, Kobel, Wou-
vermans, and others; an antique marble bust of Brutus.

THOS. WIGGLESWORTH:—

Painting by Chasselar.

MISS WILLIAMS, Salem, Mass.:—

A cardinal's camice.

MRS. E. J. YOUNG, Cambridge, Mass.:—

Three Japanese dresses; three Chinese dresses, two imperial, one man-
darin; two pieces Chinese embroidery.

LIST OF TRUSTEES.

NAMED IN THE ACT OF INCORPORATION, OR ELECTED.

MARTIN BRIMMER,	WILLIAM B. ROGERS,
CHARLES C. PERKINS,	OTIS NORCROSS,
CHARLES W. ELIOT,	JOHN T. BRADLEE,
WILLIAM ENDICOTT, Jr.,	BENJAMIN S. ROTCH,
SAMUEL ELIOT,	E. R. MUDGE,
FRANCIS E. PARKER,	CHARLES G. LORING,
HENRY P. KIDDER,	WILLIAM R. WARE,
CHARLES ELIOT NORTON.	

APPOINTED BY HARVARD COLLEGE.

WILLIAM GRAY,	HENRY J. BIGELOW,
THOMAS G. APPLETON.	

APPOINTED BY THE BOSTON ATHENÆUM.

EDWARD N. PERKINS,	J. ELLIOT CABOT,
GEORGE W. WALES.	

APPOINTED BY THE MASS. INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY.

ERASTUS B. BIGELOW,	ALEXANDER H. RICE,
M. DENMAN ROSS.	

EX OFFICIIS.

HENRY L. PEIRCE, *Mayor of Boston.*
WILLIAM W. GREENOUGH, *Pres. Trustees Public Library.*
JOHN D. PHILBRICK, *Superintendent Public Schools.*
JOSEPH WHITE, *Secretary Board of Education.*
JOHN AMORY LOWELL, *Trustee of the Lowell Institute.*

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES FOR 1878.

MARTIN BRIMMER	<i>President.</i>
HENRY P. KIDDER	<i>Treasurer.</i>
CHARLES C. PERKINS	<i>Honorary Director.</i>
CHARLES G. LORING	<i>Curator.</i>
HENRY RICHARDS	<i>Secretary.</i>

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

MARTIN BRIMMER,	WILLIAM W. GREENOUGH,
OTIS NORCROSS,	J. ELLIOT CABOT,
CHARLES G. LORING.	

COMMITTEE ON THE MUSEUM.

CHARLES C. PERKINS,	GEORGE W. WALES,
J. ELLIOT CABOT,	WILLIAM R. WARE,
HENRY J. BIGELOW,	MARTIN BRIMMER,
CHARLES G. LORING.	

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

WILLIAM GRAY,	JOHN A. LOWELL,
E. R. MUDGE.	

BUILDING COMMITTEE.

MARTIN BRIMMER,	CHARLES W. ELIOT,
OTIS NORCROSS,	J. ELLIOT CABOT,
WILLIAM W. GREENOUGH,	CHARLES C. PERKINS,
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